

WARREN
MAGAZINE



THE
SPIRIT
#11

DEC. 1975

THE SPIRIT

By

Will
EISNER

59296-3
PDC

\$1.25

THE
MUSIC PLAYS!
THE DEADLY
KNIFE
FLASHES!
AND ROUND
SHE GOES...
IN THE MAD
DANCE of DEATH!
THE INSANE
PLASTER
of PARIS!

EIGHT
ADVENTURE
CLASSICS!
STARRING
THE MIGHTIEST
CRIME-BUSTER
OF ALL-TIME!



WARREN PUBLISHING PROUDLY INTRODUCES A NEW MAGAZINE . . .

THE SPIRIT SPECIAL

80 DYNAMIC PAGES OF ELECTRIFYING COLOR!



Meet THE SPIRIT, Will Eisner's masked crime fighter of the '40's... alive in the 70's. Meet Ebony, Commissioner Dolan, Ellen... his cohorts in criminology. Meet the villains... The Octopus, Castanet, mad Dr. Paraffin, Jest Plain Cyanide, Miranda of Alcatraz and, of course, P'Gell. Ten fantastic stories in full color. Ten exciting adventures. Ten touching dramas. Read "The Elevator," Ebony's excursion into the world of detective heroics. Journey to Montabaldo for a confrontation with The Octopus... and a very special ghost. Believe, if you can, "The Strange Case of Mrs. Paraffin," a beautiful murderess who one day, literally, went up in a puff of smoke. Peruse "The Deadly Comic Book," a frightening and comic tale of revenge. Meet "Glob," a Neanderthal with soul of a Rembrandt. Watch "Young Dr. Ebony" swear off crime fighting and uncover a diamond smuggling ring. Meet Ides O' March at the "Bucker O' Blood," a saloon with a big secret. Enjoy a special gift from a unique Santa... with a little help from "THE Christmas SPIRIT." Join P'Gell in "Assignment Paris. She uses wiles to capture a jewel thief and confound THE SPIRIT. Cringe as a rocket ship threatens earth with war. Ten full color stories. A slick 11"x8-1/2" deluxe format. Heavy weight paper and quality printing. Get the one and only THE SPIRIT SPECIAL Magazine! At only \$2.98, it's a steal! Order it today. #21187/\$2.98



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THE SPIRIT NO. 11, PUBLISHED SIX TIMES A YEAR, IN FEBRUARY, APRIL, JUNE, AUGUST, OCTOBER & DECEMBER BY WARREN PUBLISHING CO. EDITORIAL, SUBSCRIPTION AND BUSINESS OFFICES AT 145 EAST 32nd STREET, N.Y. 10016. TELEPHONE: (212) 683-6050.

SUBSCRIPTIONS: SIX ISSUES FOR \$7.50 IN THE U.S.; CANADA AND ELSEWHERE \$9.50.

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SPIRIT

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DECEMBER 1975

4 THE SPIRIT'S DEAD LETTERS "Will Eisner's SPIRIT is a voice from thirty years ago," writes Terry Bigham. "It spans three decades. And reaches us loud & clear!"

5 CRIME A woman phoned Dolan. Her information was vital. Someone had murdered Stinger Ray. Mob leadership was up for grabs. Only SPIRIT could prevent a gangland war!

12 THE TORCH Sulphur and Arson Pyre. Eager incendiaries. Capable of setting fire to anything. A warehouse. A factory. Even a troublesome masked hero known as SPIRIT.

19 THE FIGHTING MACHINE Nasdrov. A boxer who'd killed ten men. His next match was a sellout with crooks in front row seats. They'd come to see SPIRIT die!

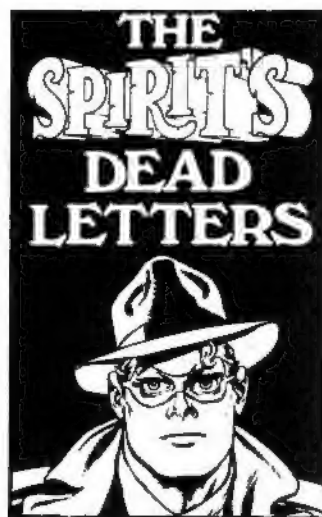
26 NAZEL B. TWICH Florence looked like an old jalopy. But she was Twich's castle on wheels. His pride. His joy. His ticket to the dangerous life of the hunted criminal!

33 THE FORTUNE Horace Eden stalked through the deserted mansion. He searched for his beautiful young cousin. He planned to kill her. The family fortune would be his!

40 A CRIME OF PASSION Asterisk was a milk horse. With a fabulous faked pedigree and a glorious trumped up past. Even at ten-to-one odds, she'd never win a race!

47 PLASTER OF PARIS A fair-haired passionate beauty. Quick to love. Quick to kill. Was she the missing link between Inspector Guillotine & criminal Don Macabre!

54 BLACKMAIL Mr. Bubble discovered THE SPIRIT's identity. And promised not to talk. For a price. So when he was murdered the one logical suspect was THE SPIRIT!



To quote Neal Adams, THE SPIRIT is "a gentle reminder of the way comics should be."

Note, I emphasize the gentle. THE SPIRIT stands alone... a stark contrast to the annihilating super-vigilantes in vogue today. He doesn't rely on guns or super-strength. His two fists and his wits keep him alive. And it's a wonder, considering some of the brawls he gets into.

Will Eisner's doesn't just draw fantastic woman. From Ellen to P'Gell he smacks 'em with personalities that place them up there with Milton Caniff's gals.

And who can combine "big-foot" drawing and moody, realistic art like Eisner? A style that contrasts so delightfully with Adams and others?

And let's not forget Eisner's prowess as a writer. His cast includes a wide spectrum of characters. His stories are expertly plotted and sub-plotted. And they are about everything in the real world. His subjects in SPIRIT #9 included crooked politics ("The Candidate"), sports racketeering ("Lovely Looie") and Arab oil intrigue ("Black Gold.") He commented on Indian rights ("White Cloud") and space based missiles (in a 40's type science-fiction yarn, "Space Sniper").

This is a voice of thirty years ago, and it is coming across the decades loud and clear.

There's just one SPIRIT... only one Eisner. And I'm glad Warren has 'em both!

TERRY BIGMAM
North Anson, Me.

One of my favorite things about a Will Eisner SPIRIT tale is his unique use of THE SPIRIT logo on the title page. Invariably he sets the mood of the story by the way these two words are rendered.

In calligraphy, as well as in every other facet of cartooning, Eisner is unmatched!

TIM COOPER
Tuscaloosa, Ala.

Recent issues of THE SPIRIT have focused on several letters arguing the merits and demerits of a SPIRIT feature drawn by an artist other than Will Eisner. Some outraged readers have even suggested that they could not even imagine the strip drawn by Neal Adams, for instance, or Wally Wood.

This is a pointless argument. Simply because it has already been done. During the war years, the strip was produced almost exclusively by people on Mr. Eisner's staff! As long ago as 1952, Wally Wood had done a strip titled "Denny Colt in Outer Space!" Neal Adams has already completed some fine illustrations featuring THE SPIRIT!

As of now, I have only read about them. On good authority, however, I can state that they do exist. And I'd like to see them. I'm curious to note how they stand up to the definitive "Eisner original!"

JERRY E. DURRWACH
St. Ann, Mo.

I was born too late to enjoy THE SPIRIT in its first printing. Even now, blessed as we are with a second chance to enjoy this fabulous character, I managed to miss the first six issues.

Then one day, I chanced upon SPIRIT #7. One glance at that fabulous cover and I had to buy the book!

The characters by Will Eisner were different from those I had previously encountered in comics. Much more human. Much more realistic. I couldn't help but love them. In fact I'm hopelessly hooked!

I've sent away for back issues. I even have my English teacher liking THE SPIRIT, and he's hard to please.

The two of us often argue over what makes a good comic and/or magazine. Both of us agree, however, that THE SPIRIT, Mr. Eisner and Warren Publishing are one of the finest combinations to come along in a great while.

MARCIA MUEHLBACH
St. Louis, Mo.



THE SPIRIT. His own kind of lawman. Not an annihilating super-vigilante, but a special kind of hero who uses his wits and fists to keep him alive. Eisner's kind of hero!

ENVY THE SPIRIT!

His days are filled with crime fighting. His nights with romance. But every now and then he needs a stiff dose of reality. Let him have it! Write THE SPIRIT!

THE SPIRIT'S DEAD LETTERS
c/o Warren Publishing Co.
145 East 32nd Street
New York, New York 10016



I had waited long and breathlessly for the appearance of "The Origin of THE SPIRIT" in issue #10. I wasn't disappointed! The art of course, was superb. But who did the color? It was fabulous!

LOUIS GRIFTY
New Orleans, La.



That story was colored by Will Eisner's inimitable assistant, John Laney.

We recently celebrated our anniversary down here at White Sands Missile Base, so when I read "The Space Sniper" (in color, yet!) I was delighted. I was amazed that anyone, even Will Eisner, would have noticed a little collection of huts and tents in the middle of nowhere. (Of course, the atomic bomb set off there might have had something to do with it!)

What a pleasing coincidence (if it was a coincidence) that the publishing date of "Space Sniper" and our anniversary should coincide.

PFC BRAD COULSON
White Sands, New Mexico

I would like to see more of Will Eisner's human interest stories featured in THE SPIRIT. "Killer" in issue #1 was one of these. "Fox at Bay," "Foul Play" and "Lonesome Cool" in issue #3 were others.

These stories are as relevant today as they were in the 40's. Eisner's explorations into human emotions...love, hate, guilt, fear, greed...are unparalleled in comics.

Why do crooks act the way they do? What makes a criminal a criminal? Who knows what evil lurks in the hearts of men?

Will Eisner knows!

MIKE BURTON
Knoxville, Tenn.

Please, don't cut down on the number of humor stories featured in THE SPIRIT. Will Eisner's humor makes THE SPIRIT stand apart from more solemn, less human comic heroes. What can the readers who clamor for drama and suspense exclusively be thinking?

A balanced number of humor and suspense adventures adds tremendously to the overall character of THE SPIRIT and his magazine.

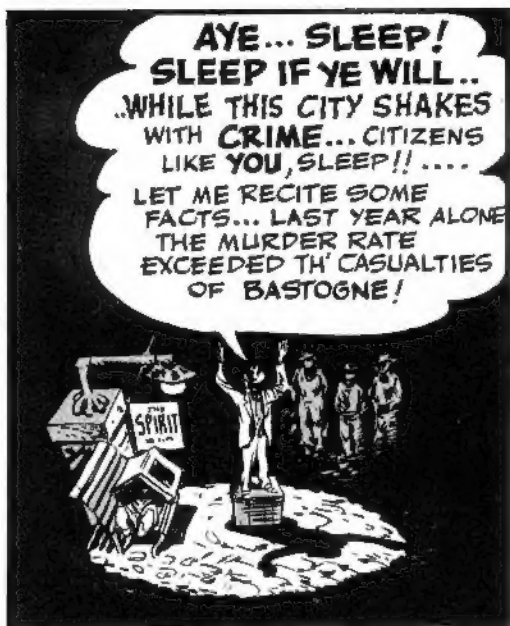
A good variety of SPIRIT stories keeps me interested and coming back for more! Sooner or later, I would get tired of an overdose of action filled dramas and mysteries. Life is full of fun and laughter, as well as cruelty and slaughter.

So please, Mr. Eisner, keep your beautiful humor coming. I want to continue to chuckle, chortle and snicker along with THE SPIRIT.

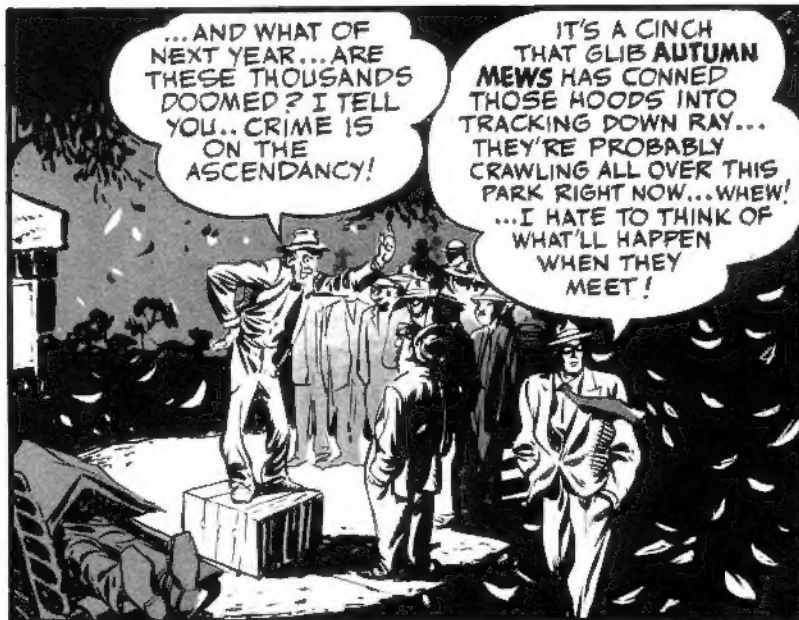
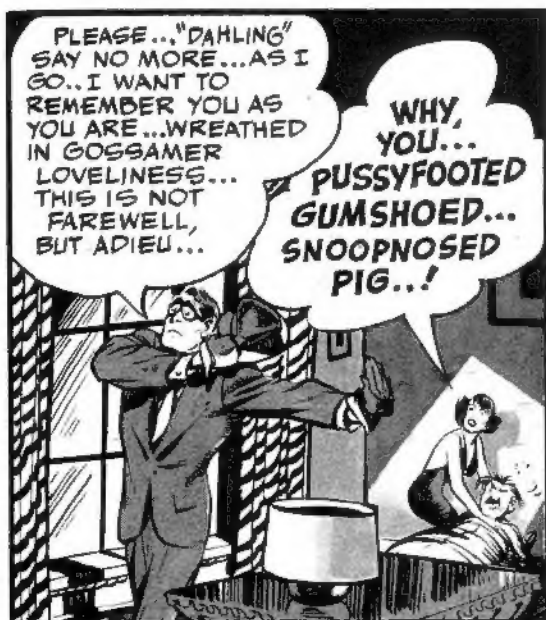
SCOTT RADER
Morgan Hill, Calif.

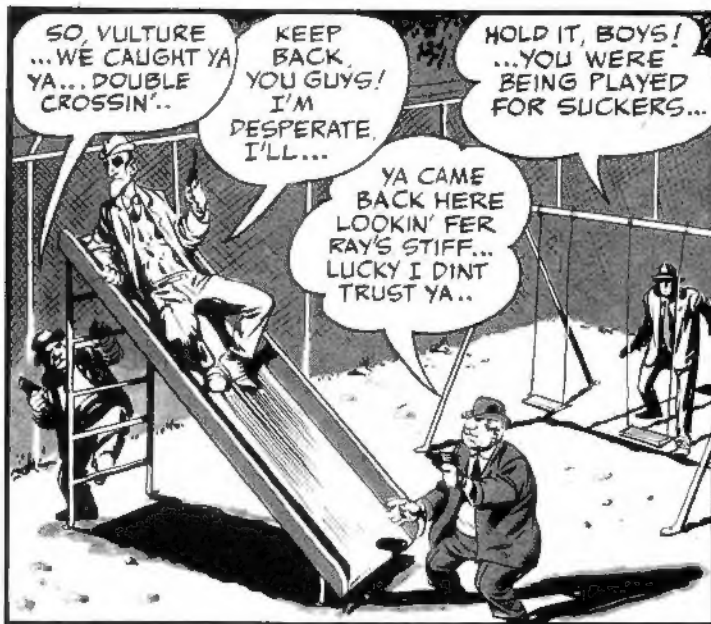
CRIME

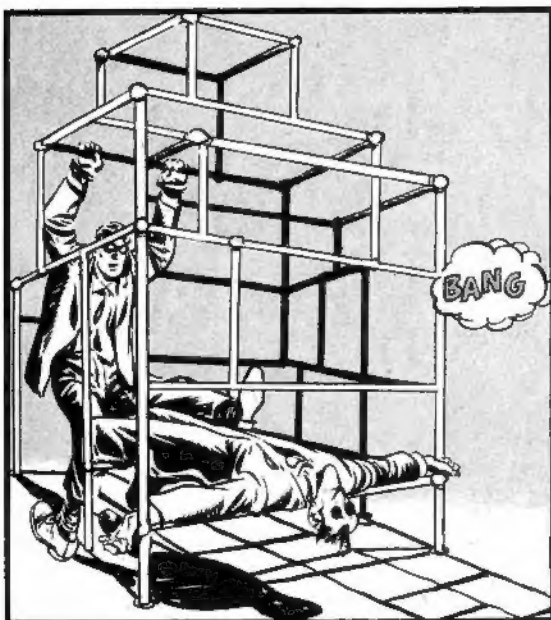


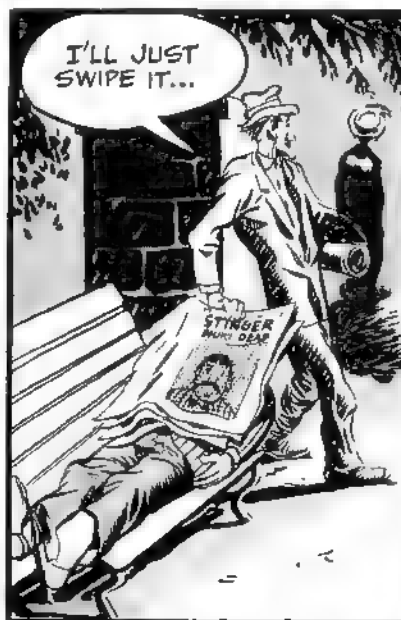










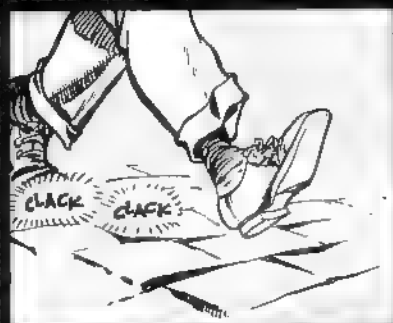


THE TORCH

DEAR READER:
BECAUSE OF THE GREATLY INCREASED
COST OF DRAWING MATERIALS WE HAVE
FOUND IT NECESSARY TO ACCEPT THE
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE OF A SPONSOR
THIS STORY, THEREFORE, WILL COME
TO YOU UNDER THE SPONSORSHIP OF
ZOLTAN B. GOOPLE AND COMPANY
I KNOW THAT THOSE OF YOU WHO ALSO
WORK FOR A LIVING WILL UNDERSTAND.

Will Eisner

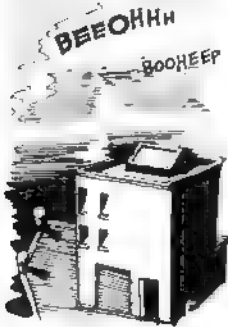
THE SPIRIT



FIRST PUBLISHED APRIL 23, 1946
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OUR STORY OPENS

IN AN
OLD WAREHOUSE
ON CENTRAL
CITY'S
WATERFRONT.



SOMEWHERE INSIDE.

GET HIM, BOYS!



ARSON PYRE!!

I MIGHT HAVE KNOWN..
I SENT YOU UP FOR THIS
SEVEN YEARS AGO..THIS
TIME YOU'LL GET
20 YEARS!

POUR
SOME MORE
GASOLINE
ON HIM,
SULFER!

AND THIS
TIME
YOU'LL BE
ROASTED
FIRST,
SPIRIT..

HAH HA HA

STEP ASIDE, BOYS,
WHILE I GIVE THE
GREAT CRIME-
FIGHTER A
HOT-FOOT!

BLUB



O.K..
BEAT IT,
BOYS..
HERE IT
GOES..
WHEEEEEEE



Oh dear...the situation
sure is hair-raising. But
before we return to see how
he makes out, let's have a
word from our sponsor, the
makers of that wonderful
hair-raising miracle,

GOOPLE'S CREAM
HAIR RESTORER
Shampoo

LISTEN TO THIS REAL-LIFE STORY FROM A REAL-
LIFE PERSON:

BEFORE USING GOOPLE'S,
I LOOKED LIKE THIS



ONLY A FEW
APPLICATIONS OF
GOOPLE'S...AND NOW
I LOOK LIKE THIS



More about this miracle later in the program..

...WELL, BOYS AND GIRLS,
WE LEFT THE WOUNDED,
GASOLINE-DRENCHED
SPIRIT TIED UP IN THE
BURNING WAREHOUSE
WHILE ARSON PYRE, FLINT,
AND SULFER ESCAPE.



MEANWHILE...IN THE OFFICE OF COMMISSIONER DOLAN.

HELLO...YEAH, THIS
IS DOLAN..WHAT???
THE OLD WAREHOUSE
AFIRE...OH OH..I HEAR THE
FIRE ENGINES GOING BY..
YES, I'LL BE OUT THERE
MYSELF.



AND A FEW MINUTES LATER.

LOOKS LIKE ARSON, SIR..
BURNS TOO FAST..IN A FEW
MINUTES THERE WON'T BE
TOO MUCH LEFT
OF IT.

ANYONE
INSIDE?

I DON'T
KNOW,
SIR...
WE'VE A
NET
OUT,
JUST TO
MAKE
SURE.





...Asbestos powder, which covered the gasoline, poured over him and made the Spirit immune to flame...

And now he's dived out of the window twenty stories above ground...

Well, while the crimefighter heads earthward a word about **GOOPLE'S CREAM...**

UNLIKE MANY OTHER HAIR PREPARATIONS, GOOPLES DOES MORE THAN SLICK DOWN HAIR...

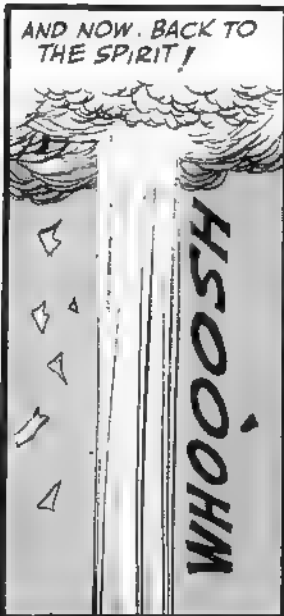
IN JUST 10 SECONDS AFTER EACH APPLICATION

GOOPLES CREAM DIPS DOWN INTO THE ROOTS WHERE ITS VITAMIN ZXP CONTACTS THE BASE

...THUS NOURISHING THE LONG-DEAD FOLLICLES... ROOTS BEGIN TO FUNCTION AND HAIR GROWS.

YES, GOOPLE'S ACTUALLY GROWS HAIR, AND NO OTHER CREAM CAN MAKE THAT STATEMENT.

Later we'll tell you how to get this miracle cream.



CONFOUND IT, MAN! THAT SURVIVOR MIGHT HAVE BEEN ARSON HIMSELF. DID YOU GET A LOOK AT HIM?

I COULDN'T, COMMISSIONER DOLAN... HE WAS COVERED WITH A WHITE POWDER...

HMM ASBESTOS POWDER I'LL WAGER... THEY STORE THAT IN THIS WAREHOUSE.

OBVIOUSLY!! GAD, WHAT A BUNCH OF LAME BRAINS IN THE FIRE DEPARTMENT! I'M SURE MY POLICE DEPARTMENT OPERATES MORE EFFICIENTLY

SEZ WHO ??!

YEAH WHY DON'T YOU STOP FIRES IF YOU'RE SO SMART?

WELL, STICK AROUND AND WATCH SOME REAL EFFICIENCY !!

WHY, THOSE FLATFOOTED MORONS YOU HAVE DOWN THERE

COMMISSIONER, WE'VE LOCATED THE OWNER! HE SAYS HE WAS PAYING PROTECTION TO ARSON PYRE... AND WHEN HE STOPPED... THEY BURNED HIS BUILDING DOWN!

AHA... WHERE'D YOU DELIVER THE MONEY?

THE ANDIRON F.R.E INSURANCE COMPANY SIR.

AHA!

OBVIOUSLY A FRONT FOR ARSON PYRE...

GET A SQUAD CAR... CHECK THAT ADDRESS

GIMME A DETAIL FULLY ARMED.. HURRY!

BETTER GET SOME "RDX-SHAPED CHARGES". THAT'S A STEEL AND CONCRETE BUILDING.. I'VE CHECKED THE ADDRESS.

YES SIR.

YES SIR.

AND NOW, CHIEF STACK, I'LL SHOW YOU SOME REAL EFFICIENCY... AS HANDLED BY THE P-O-L-I-C-E !!

In a moment we'll return and find out what happens to criminals who defy the mighty forces of the law. And now let's listen to a transcribed message from our sponsor.

Goo-ple's Goo-ple's hits the spot

Where your hair was, now is not

Twice as much as you had before

Keep ol' Goo-ple's in yr bureau drawer

Google Google Google Google Google Google Google

A
brief
pause
for
newspaper
identification

BUNG
BING
BONG

This is your
local
Sunday
paper,
operating on
a frequency
of 250 news-
boys and 40
bicycles.

AND NOW...YOU'LL REMEMBER, BOYS AND GIRLS, HOW THE SPIRIT WALKED OFF, UNBEKNOWN TO DOLAN OR THE FIREMEN BUT IN THE MEANTIME, WHAT OF ARSON PYRE? ...WE FIND HIM NOW IN HIS HIDEOUT IN THE BACK ROOM OF THE ANDIRON INSURANCE CO. ...SHHHH. LISTEN.

WELL, ARSON, WE GOT THE WIRING ALL FIXED.

GOOD WORK, SULFER. NOW WE'RE ALL SET... HA HA HA HA HA

I'D SURE LIKE TO SEE THE COPS' FACES WHEN WE SPRING OUR LITTLE SURPRISE ON 'EM.

WELL, WE'D BETTER STAY HERE FOR A WHILE...THIS PLACE IS LIKE A FORTRESS... NO ONE C'N GIT AT US.

?



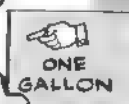


And so .. another adventure ends with the Spirit far ahead of the crooks.

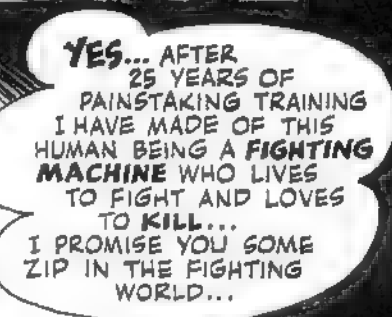
Now about next week:

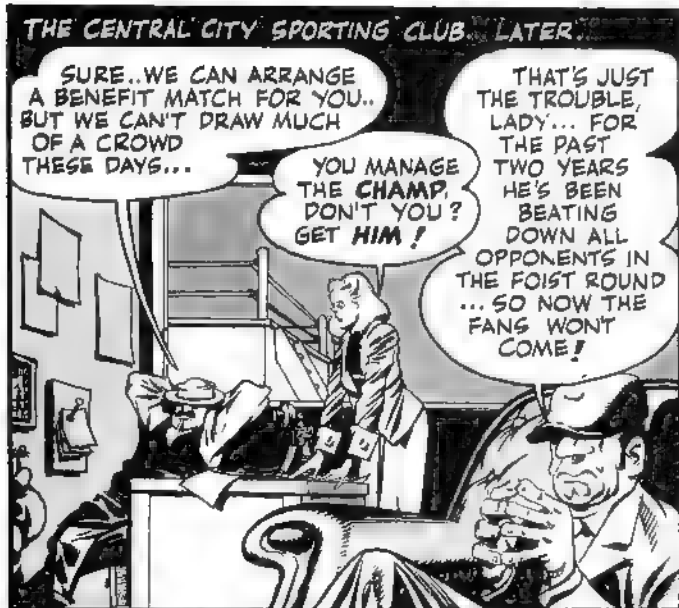
...BUT, before we learn that, let's have a word from our sponsor....

Remember... GOOPLER'S CREAM comes in TWO handy sizes...



THE FIGHTING MACHINE





THE HOME OF COMMISSIONER DOLAN.

OH, DOGGONIT, SPIRIT.. WHY DON'TCHA RELAX! IF 24 HOURS EVER PASSED WITHOUT A CRIME, I'LL WAGER YOU'D COOK ONE UP.. DR. BONE'S BOXER IS NOT IN MY JURISDICTION!

BUT HE'S BEEN KILLING BOXERS FROM COAST TO COAST... HE'S A KILLER AND YOU'VE GOT TO STOP HIM!

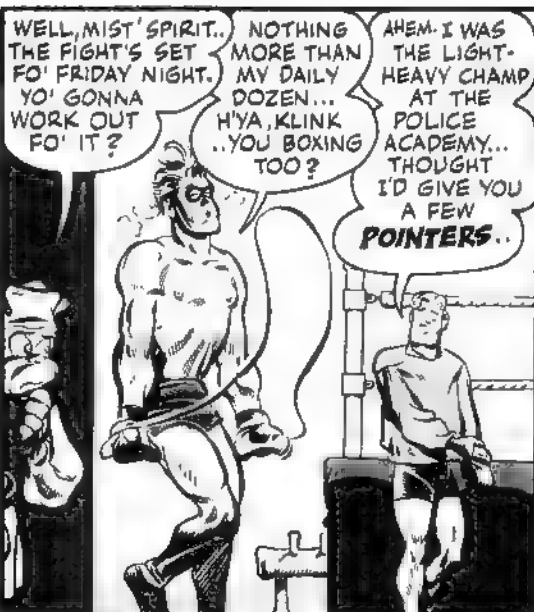
SPIRIT, DEAR, I...

I CAN'T UNTIL HE KILLS SOMEONE IN MY DISTRICT... REMEMBER, I'M NO ROBIN-HOOD OUTLAW... I'M JUST A COP!

SARCASM IS NOT GOING TO FREE YOU OF YOUR OBLIGATION TO CLEAN SPORT!

SPEAKING OF MORAL OBLIGATIONS... ER.. WOULD YOU PLEASE BOX FOR THE LADIES' AUX...





WELL, MIST' SPIRIT.. THE FIGHT'S SET FO' FRIDAY NIGHT. YO' GONNA WORK OUT FO' IT?

NOTHING MORE THAN MY DAILY DOZEN... H'YA, KLINK.. YOU BOXING TOO?

AHEM.. I WAS THE LIGHT-HEAVY CHAMP AT THE POLICE ACADEMY... THOUGHT I'D GIVE YOU A FEW POINTERS..



BUT SAM, I...

TUT TUT. LEAST I CAN DO FOR A FRIEND.. COME ON NOW, I'M NOT GOING TO HURT YOU!



YOU MAY BE A GREAT ROUGH-AND-TUMBLE FIGHTER, SPIRIT, BUT THIS FIGHT IS GOING TO BE ACCORDING TO SPECIFIC RULES!

BUT..



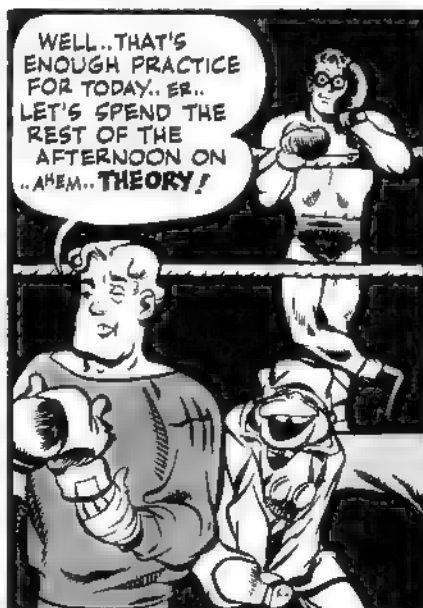
NOW.. AHEM.. BOXING IS A STUDIED SCIENCE! KEEP DANCING LIKE THIS..



NOTICE HOW EVERY MOVE, EVERY BLOW IS CAREFULLY THOUGHT OUT... DON'T STAND THERE.. DEFEND YOURSELF... SOMETIMES I DON'T KNOW MY OWN STRENGTH..



O.K.



WELL.. THAT'S ENOUGH PRACTICE FOR TODAY.. ER.. LET'S SPEND THE REST OF THE AFTERNOON ON.. AHEM.. THEORY!



MEANWHILE...
... BUT MR. RESIN.. I DIDN'T KNOW NOSDROV WAS A KILLER... PLEASE, PLEASE CALL IT OFF... HE'LL KILL THE SPIRIT LIKE HE DID THE OTHERS!

... THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT EVERYONE EXPECTS... LOOK AT ALL THE TICKET ORDERS.. WERE SOLD OUT!

YEAH.. IT'S OUT OF OUR HANDS NOW..



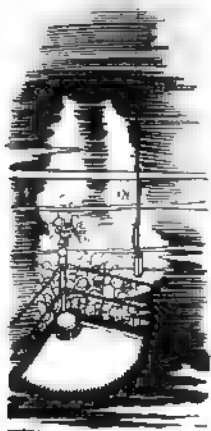
Y'SEE, EVERY MOBSTER IN TOWN IS COMIN' TO SEE WHAT GANGLAND HAS BEEN DREAMIN' OF DOIN' FOR YEARS!

YEAH.. YEAH.. I TELL YOU IT'S A CINCH NOSDROV'LL KILL HIM LIKE THE OTHERS... SURE I'M SURE... I BET SO GRAND ON HIM!

HELLO, GLICER? HOW'D Y'LIKE TO SEE THE SPIRIT MURDERED? IT'S A CINCH!

AND SO \$\$\$

...THE NIGHT OF THE FIGHT...



GOOD EVENING FOLKS...THIS IS GABBY LARYNX, YOUR RINGSIDE REPORTER, READY TO GIVE YOU A BLOW BY BLOW DESCRIPTION OF WHAT LOOKS LIKE THE FIGHT OF THE CENTURY... MY COLLEAGUES HAVE GIVEN YOU THE BACKGROUND ON THESE TWO REMARKABLE MEN, SO NOW FOR A BIT OF THE COLORFUL CROWD...



AHA!...IN ROW ONE, THAT GREAT AND CHARITABLE SOCIALITE, MRS. VAN GELT, HEAD OF THE LADIES' AUXILIARY, WHOSE BENEFIT THIS IS...



AND RIGHT ALONGSIDE HER IS...ULP?? ER...AHEM... "FIXER-THU-FINK". HOW'D HE... WELL HEH HEH FOLKS, IT'S A MIXED CROWD TONIGHT... OOPS!... THERE GOES THE BELL!



BOTH MEN COME OUT CAREFULLY...WE'VE ALL HEARD OF THE SPIRIT BUT WE'VE NEVER ACTUALLY SEEN HIM... MAN HE'S RUGGED...!



OOOOPS! NASDROV BREAKS THE STALEMATE WITH A BLOW TO THE BODY...UGH! THAT NASDROV FIGHTS LIKE A MACHINE...WHAT PRECISION...!



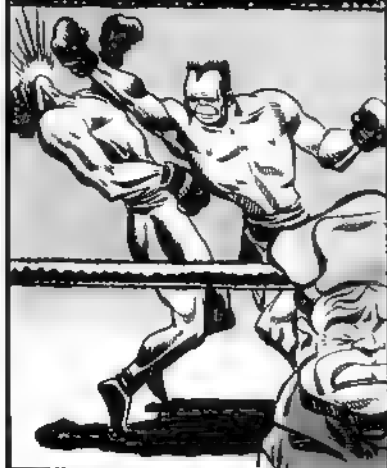
THE SPIRIT HAS FELT THE FIRST BLOW AND IS NOW MOVING IN...HE'S GOT A FREE SWINGING STYLE...



WHEW...THAT NASDROV CAN SURE TAKE IT... UGH... HOW TOUGH CAN YOU BE...



OW! NASDROV BROUGHT ONE UP FROM THE FLOOR...



I SAW SUCH A BLOW KILL A MAN IN KANSAS CITY ONCE... THE SPIRIT IS COMING BACK FOR MORE...



WELL FOLKS...THERE GOES THE BELL...THINGS DO NOT LOOK SO GOOD FOR THE SPIRIT... A VERY WEIRD THING HAS OCCURRED!... MOST OF THE TICKETS WERE BOUGHT BY HOODS, THUGS, AND TRIGGERMEN... THE ARENA IS QUIET! IT'S...GULP!...LIKE THEY'RE WAITING FOR SOMEONE TO DIE...





THIS IS THE SECOND ROUND, FOLKS... I UNDERSTAND THAT NO ONE HAS STAYED IN THE RING WITH NOSDROV MORE THAN ONE ROUND... WELL, THE SPIRIT IS STILL MOVING IN...



THE FOURTH ROUND...
... GAD!



THE FIFTH ROUND...
GOOD HEAVENS!



THE SIXTH...
... UGH!



THIS IS THE SEVENTH ROUN' COMIN' UP.
BAW- LEMME
THROW THE
'TOWEL IN, MIST'
SPIRIT... YO'
BLEEDIN'!

NO!
I KNOW
WHAT I'M
DOING...

OH,
YEAH!
WELL,
I'LL TAKE
MATTERS
INTO
MY OWN
HANDS!



REFEREE KLEEN...
I DEMAND YOU
STOP THIS FIGHT!
IT'S SLAUGHTER!

...I'LL
TALK TO
THE
JUDGES,
SIR...



I THINK WE
SHOULD
STOP THE
FIGHT...THE
SPIRIT IS
BADLY
HURT...

THE JUDGE
THINKS WE
OUGHTA GO
ON...
DON'TCHA
JUDGEIE..

TSK.TSK
HAW

..YES...



THE SEVENTH ROUND AND
THE EIGHTH HAVE BEEN THE
SAME...WHY THE JUDGES
PERMIT THIS TO CONTINUE
IS A MYSTERY TO ME...
GGLLACK-I... SORRY-I...
I FEEL SICK...

WELL, FOLKS...
THIS IS THE
LAST ROUND
... BUT
SOMETHING'S
HAPPENING...
NOSDROV
IS PUZZLED..
HE CAN'T
UNDERSTAND
WHAT TO DO
NEXT...
HE'S TRIED
EVERYTHING..

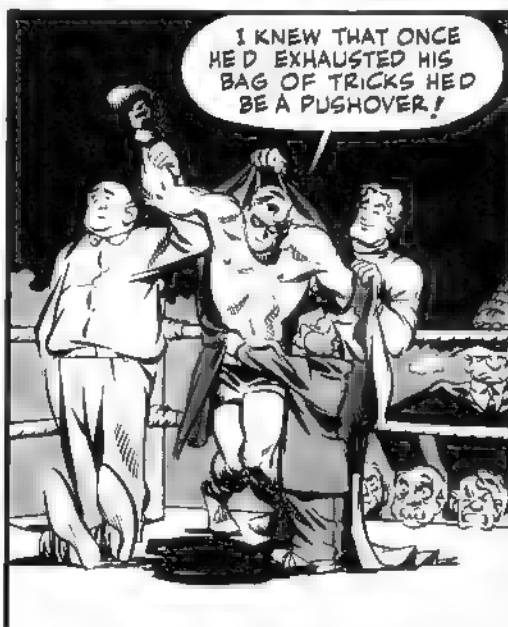
AS HE COMES
FROM HIS
CORNER, THE
LOOK OF
BEWILDERMENT
AT THE SPIRIT'S
ABILITY TO
TAKE ALL HE
COULD GIVE
IS AMAZING!



THIS IS
WHAT
I'VE BEEN
WAITING
FOR!



A FIGHTING
MACHINE IS
LIKE ANY
OTHER
MACHINE...



I KNEW THAT ONCE
HE'D EXHAUSTED HIS
BAG OF TRICKS HE'D
BE A PUSHOVER!





IN ANCIENT DAYS, MAN'S PROUDEST, MOST VALUABLE POSSESSION WAS HIS HORSE...HIS BEST FRIEND, HIS DOG...

BUT **TODAY**... THE **CAR**... YEA, MAN'S AUTOMOBILE, IS HIS PROUDEST POSSESSION, BEST FRIEND, THE MEASUREMENT OF HIS WEALTH! AND FOR THESE THINGS, A MAN WILL DO ANYTHING..... **ANYTHING !!!**

TO PROVE THE POINT.....

.....TAKE

Nazel B. Twitch

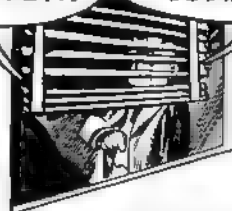
NAZEL TWITCH!

YOU'VE BEEN LATE EVERY DAY THIS WEEK!

SO WHAT? GOTTA REPAIR MY CAR..THAT'S MORE IMPORTANT THAN YOUR CRUMMY OLD BUSINESS!

YOU'RE FIRED !!

...AND I'M GLAD, GLAD, G-L-A-D... HA HA HA!



Y'CAN SAVE MONEY BY USING REGULAR INSTEAD OF SPECIAL.

NEVER... IT TAKES MY LAST CENT... BUT I BUY THE BEST FOR HER!



WE PAY TOP DOLLAR.

HEY

WANNA SELL?

PEST

HOW DARE YOU, SIR ??!



NEXT DAY..

I THINK I'LL TAKE FLORENCE, THE CAR, FOR A RIDE.

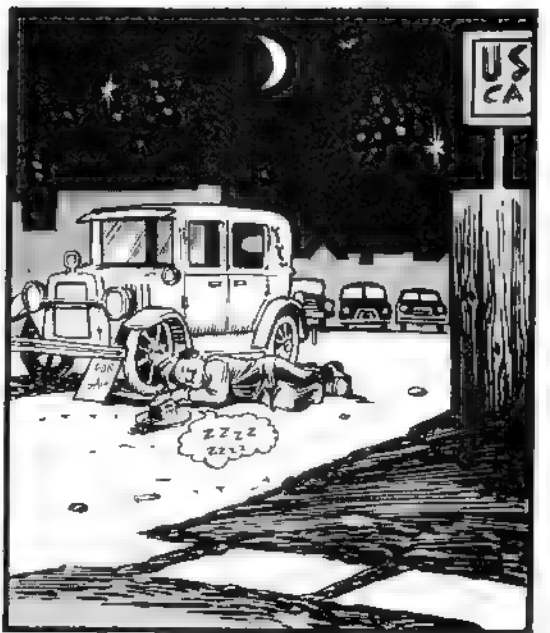
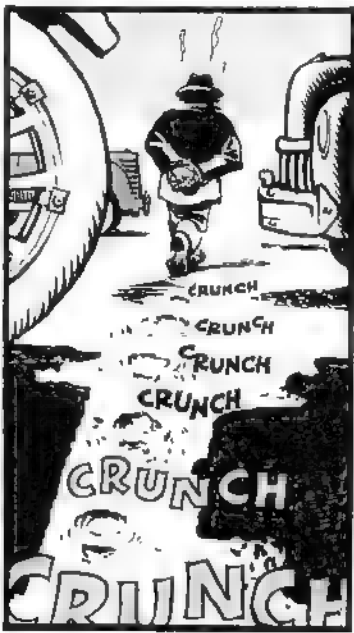
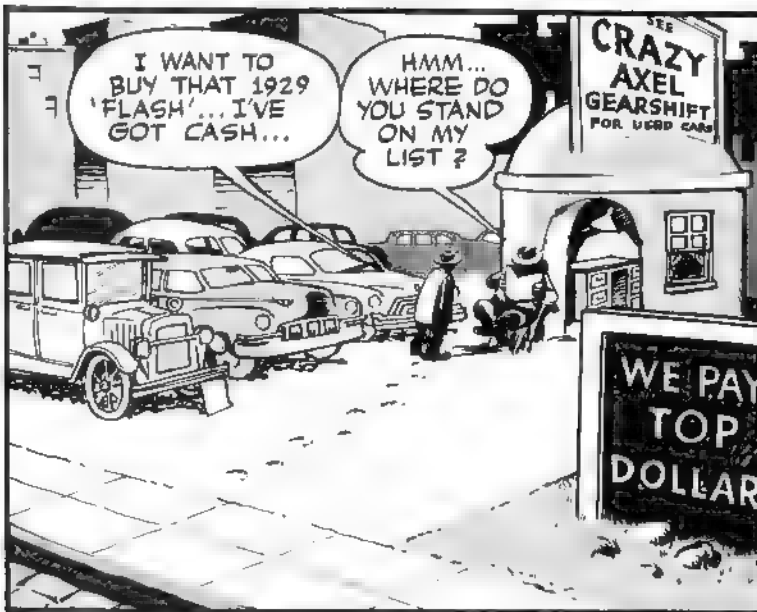
Y'CAN'T.

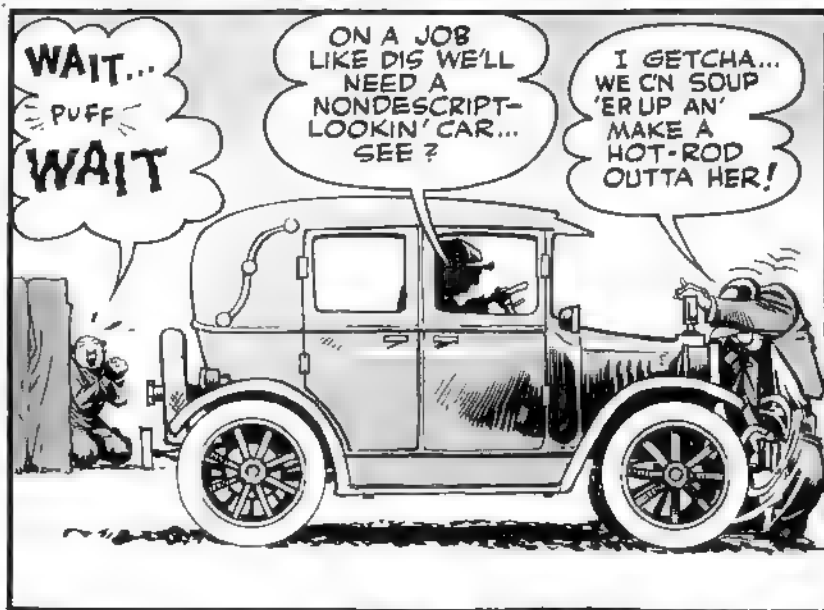
?? WHY..?

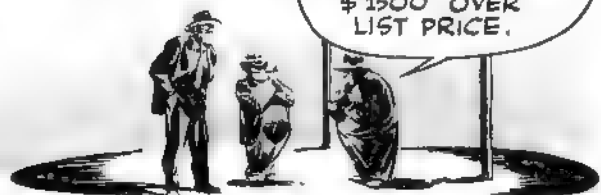
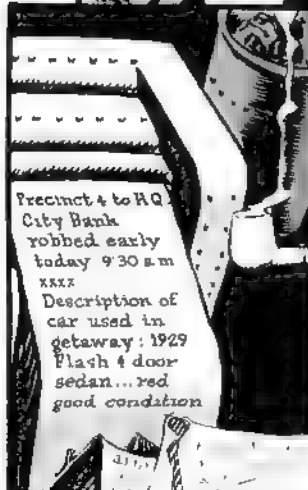
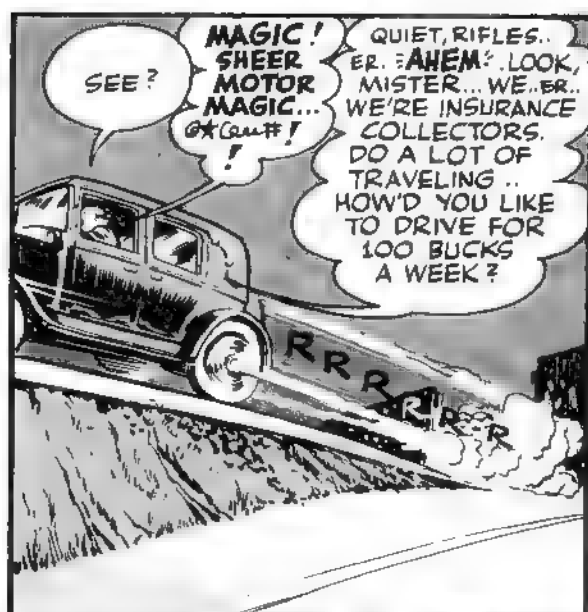
WHAT HAVE YOU DONE WITH HER, WOMAN ??

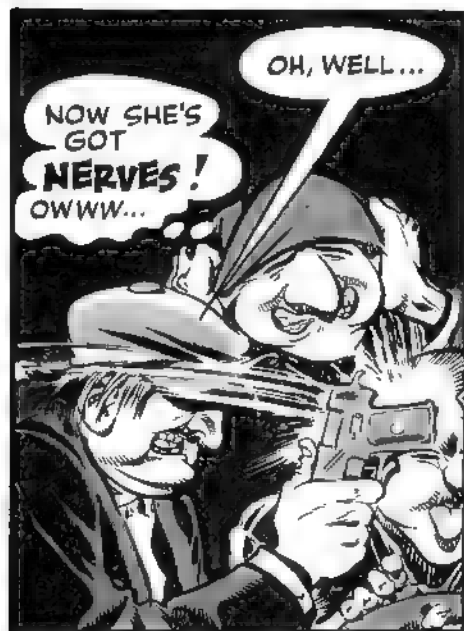
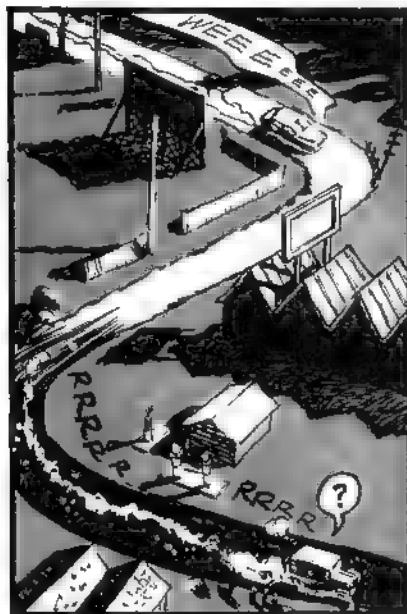
I SOLD HER FOR \$500... NOW THAT Y'R JOBLESS, WE'LL NEED THE DOUGH.

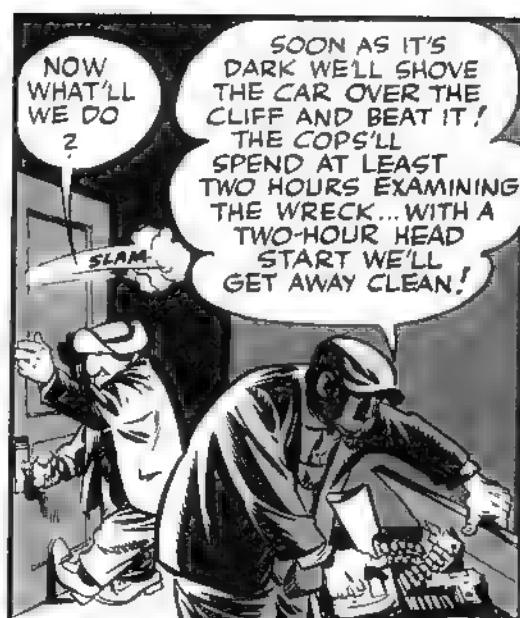
WHAT ?

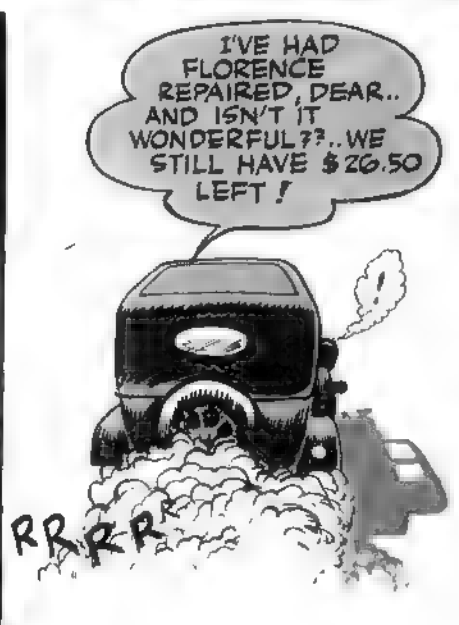
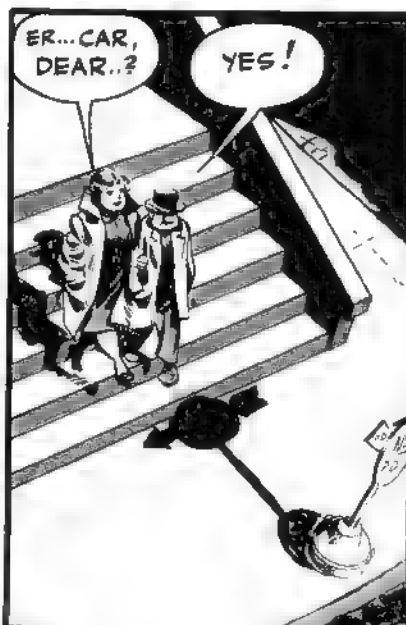
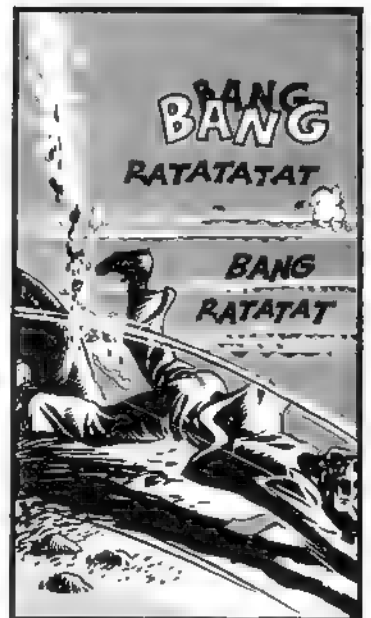
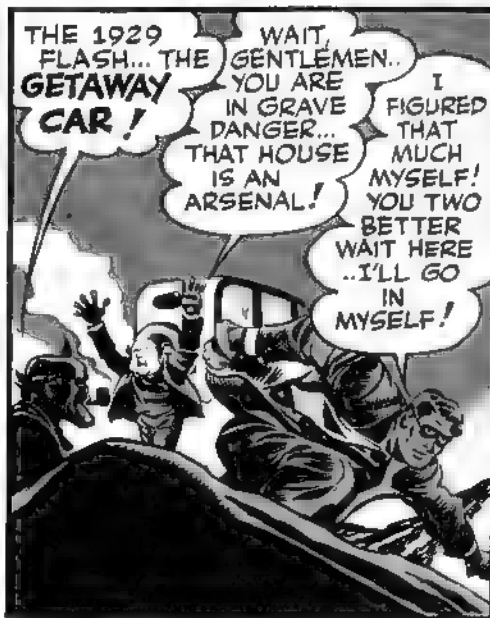










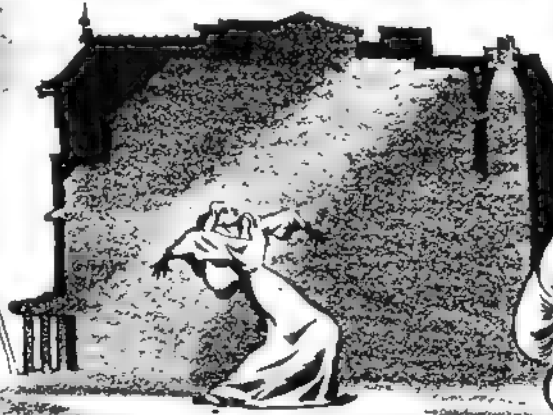


"THE FORTUNE"

THERE IS NO ESCAPE...



I'M ALL ALONE IN A BIG HOUSE... THE OLD MANSION LEFT TO ME BY UNCLE EDEN...



AND I'M TERROR STRICKEN!



ABOVE THE NOISE OF MY THUMPING HEART LOUDER THAN THE SOUND OF MY GASPS... ARE THE FOOTSTEPS OF MY COUSIN... AS HE FOLLOWS ME ABOUT THE HOUSE...

WAITING...



...WAITING FOR ME TO FAINT OR SLEEP SO HE CAN **KILL ME!!**



BUT I MUST STAY AWAKE UNTIL THE SPIRIT COMES... UNTIL THE SPIRIT COMES TO SAVE ME



BY
WILL
EISNER

I MUST THINK... PERHAPS IF I RETRACE EVERYTHING THAT HAS HAPPENED UNTIL NOW IT WILL HELP ME PLAN SOMETHING...



LAST WEEK UNCLE EDEN DIED AND LEFT ME HIS FORTUNE... NOW I'M THE RICHEST GIRL IN THE WORLD... WITH NO CLOSE RELATIVE EXCEPT HORACE, MY COUSIN!



HORACE... A MADMAN!
UNCLE EDEN WARNED ME ABOUT HIM IN HIS WILL... AND LAST NIGHT, WHEN I CAME TO TAKE POSSESSION OF THIS HOUSE... HE WAS HERE! ...NO... I DIDN'T SEE HIM... AND I'VE NEVER MET HIM BEFORE... BUT I KNOW HE'S HERE TO WREST THE FORTUNE FROM ME BY MURDER...



THIS MORNING... THE FRONT DOOR WAS BOLTED... THE KEY WAS GONE... THE PHONE I USED TO CALL THE SPIRIT WAS RIPPED OUT OF THE WALL... THE WINDOWS ARE ALL BOLTED...



AND AS I WAIT FOR HELP TO COME... I SEE ONLY HIS FEET FOLLOWING ME ABOUT THE HOUSE... WAITING FOR ME TO STOP ELUDING HIM!

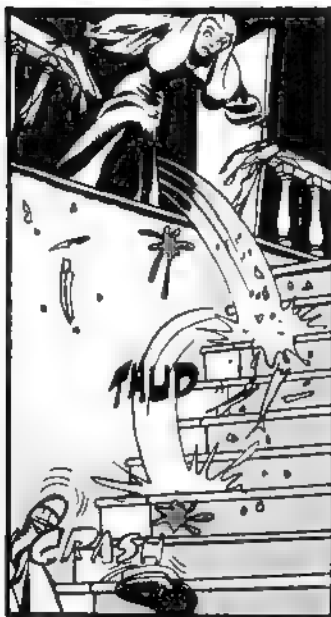
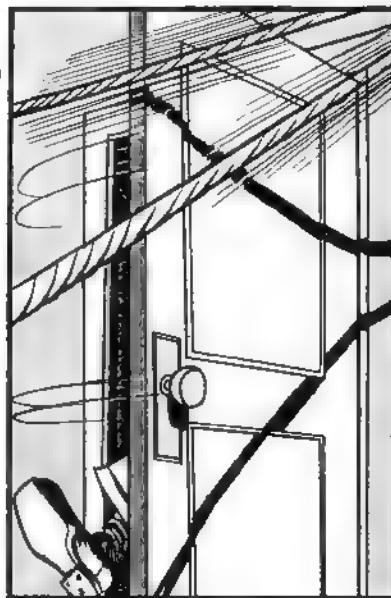


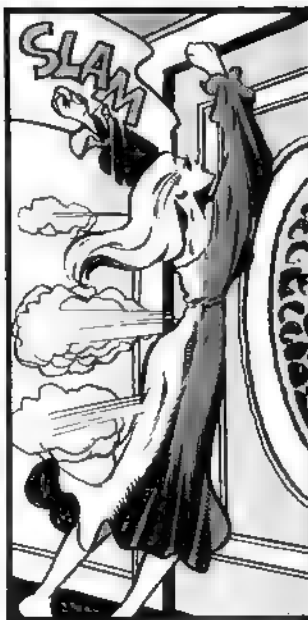
RAIN... RAIN... RAIN... RAIN... THINK... THINK... THINK... THINK... PAT... PAT... PAT... PAT... WHEN... WILL... THE SPIRIT... COME?



I CAN AT LEAST FIGHT BACK UNTIL HE COMES TO SAVE ME.

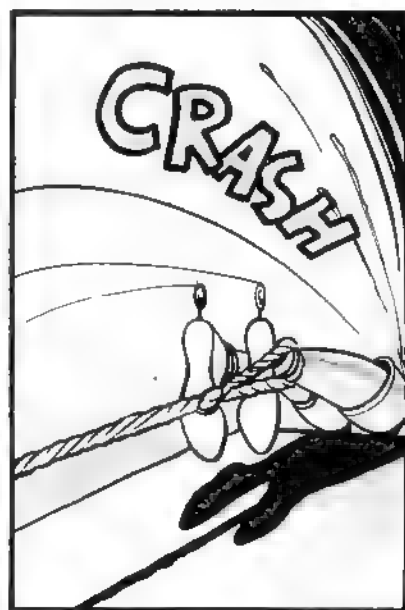












Of all the forms of crime
...of all the violence that
man can commit upon
other living things...none

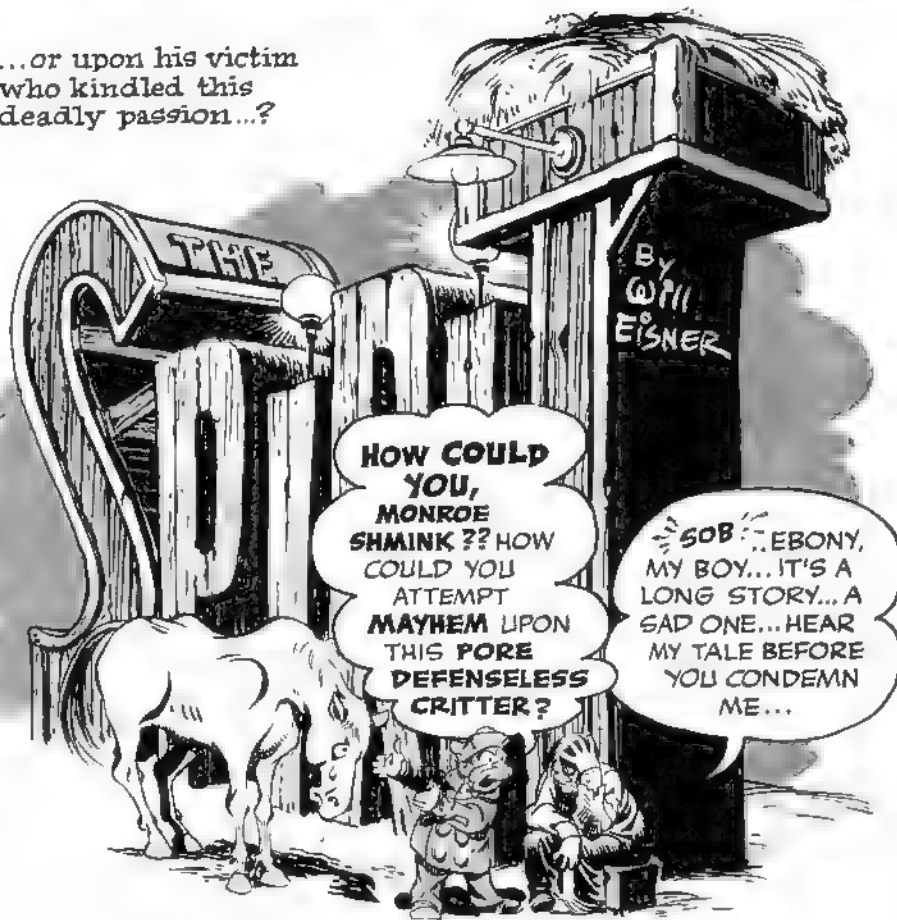
begs equal pity for the
criminal so much as does...

The CRIME of PASSION



..For in this type of
crime, where shall one
place the blame?
...Upon the criminal?

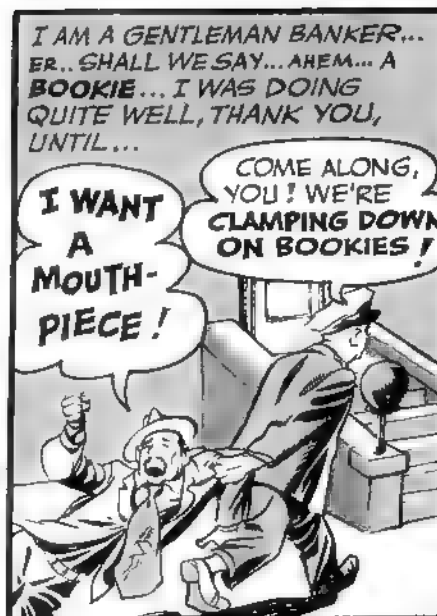
...or upon his victim
who kindled this
deadly passion...?





O.K...
AH'M
LISSENIN'...

THANK YOU,
FRIEND!
..WELL...
IT WAS LIKE
THIS..



I WANT
A
MOUTH-
PIECE!

COME ALONG,
YOU! WE'RE
CLAMPING DOWN
ON BOOKIES!

I AM A GENTLEMAN BANKER...
ER.. SHALL WE SAY... AHM... A
BOOKIE... I WAS DOING
QUITE WELL, THANK YOU,
UNTIL...



Y'CAN'T PIN
NOTHIN' ON ME,
DOLAN!
I AM MERELY A
HORSE FANCIER!
BOOKIE INDEED!!
Y'GOT NO
EVIDENCE!



O.K. SHMINK...WE'LL HAVE TO
LET YOU GO... BUT THE **NEXT TIME**
WE NAB YOU TAKING BOOK, WE'LL
JUG YOU FOR **SO LONG** THAT
WHEN YOU GET OUT,
**HORSES WILL BE
EXTINCT!**

GOOD
DAY,
SIR.

FOR ALL ME
NONCHALANCE,
I WAS HIPPIED
TO THE FACT
THAT THINGS
WAS GETTIN'
TOUGH...
TEN MINUTES
LATER, SHMINK
ENTERPRISES
WAS PARKED
ON THE CURB,
TRYIN' TO FIGURE
A WAY TO
COPE WITH THE
TREND...
WHEN
SHE
CAME INTO
ME LIFE!!



CLOP
CLOP
CLOP



SLURP

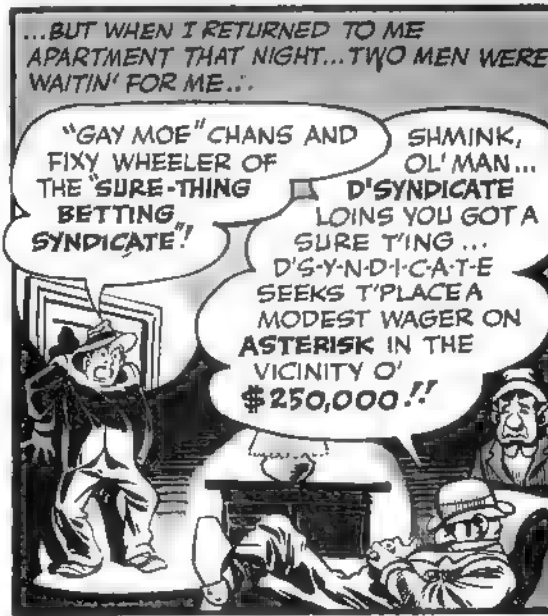


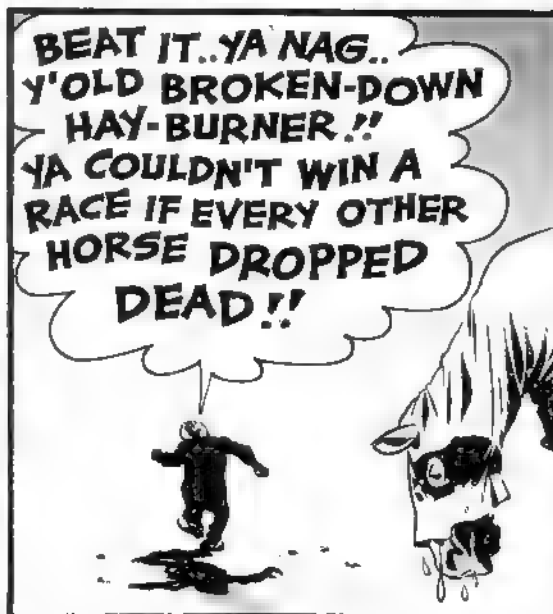
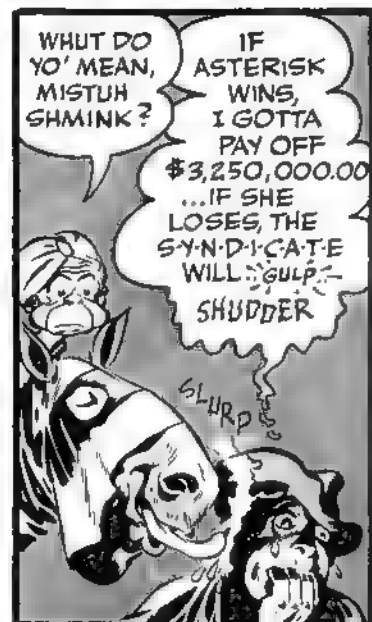
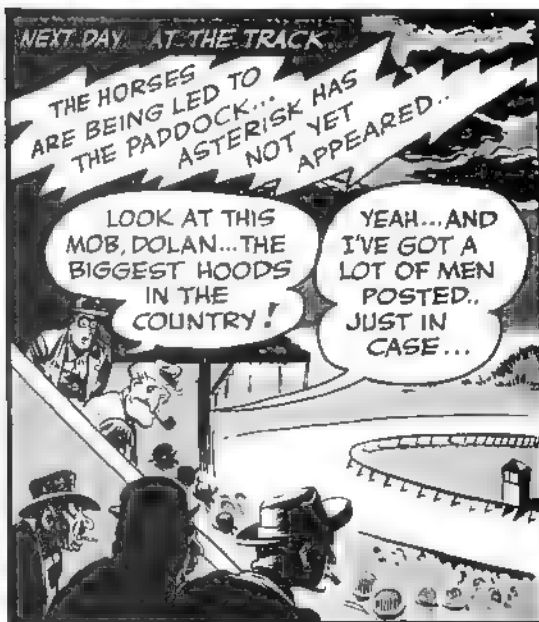
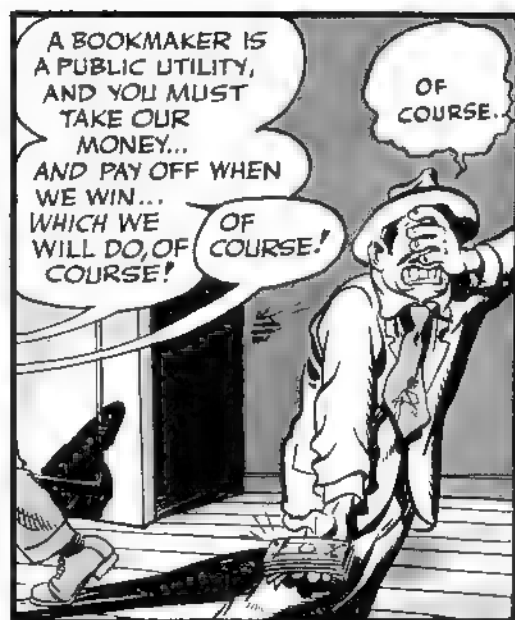
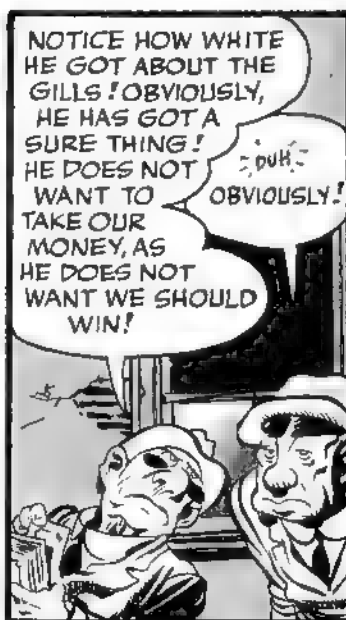
GO AWAY,
Y'SLOPPY
BEAST!!

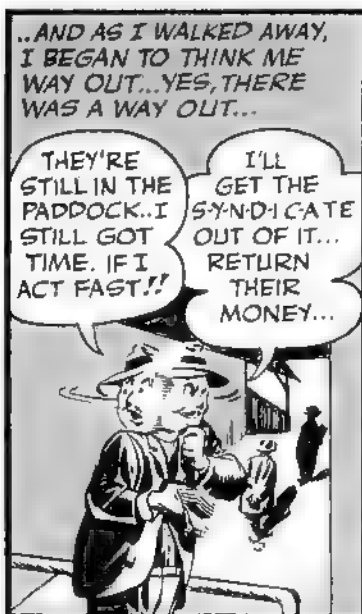


BUT THEN I TURNED AND LOOKED AT
HER... THERE WAS A STRANGE BEAUTY
THAT DREW ME TO HER... I WAS
FASCINATED!

\$







..AND AS I WALKED AWAY, I BEGAN TO THINK ME WAY OUT...YES, THERE WAS A WAY OUT...

THEY'RE STILL IN THE PADDOCK..I STILL GOT TIME. IF I ACT FAST!!

I'LL GET THE SYNDICATE OUT OF IT... RETURN THEIR MONEY...



HELLO, PARLAY, YOU RAT !TRYIN' TO INVOLVE ME, AN HONEST HORSE-FANCIER IN A CHEAP SWINDLE ..LIKE BETTING ON ASTERISK,WHO CANNOT LOSE, BECAUSE HE IS SO FAST !!

SHH.. SHHH!! COMMISSIONER DOLAN AND THE SPIRIT ARE SITTIN' OVER THERE .

!?



HERE IS YOUR MONEY!! IT IS STAINED WITH THE SWEAT OF HONEST HORSES! FIE, SIR!!

SSSSSHHH F'HEAVEN'S SAKE .. Y'GOIN'?? CRAZY ??

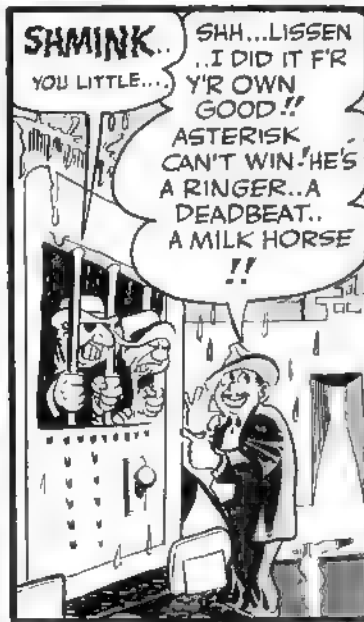
GRAB THE DOUGH, PARLAY... DA COPS IS CLOSIN' IN !!



I'M GLAD TO SEE YOU ARE REFORMING, SHMINK... FOR A MOMENT I THOUGHT YOU WERE BACK TO GAMBLING AGAIN...

WHY, SIR .. HOW COULD YOU !?

GET THOSE TWO CROOKS !!



SHMINK... YOU LITTLE...

SHH...LISSSEN ..I DID IT F'R Y'R OWN GOOD!! ASTERISK CAN'T WIN! HE'S A RINGER..A DEADBEAT.. A MILK HORSE !!



I COULDN'T LET TWO PALS O'MINE LOSE LIKE DAT !

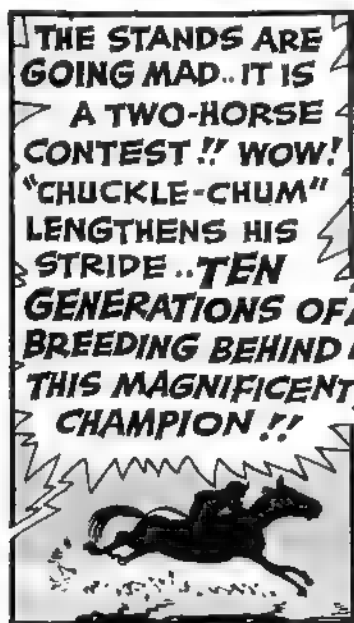
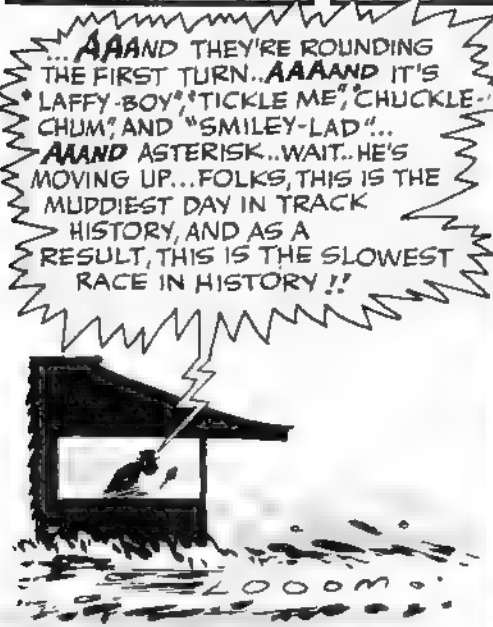
CHEE.. WE MISJUDGED YOU, PAL! A MILKHORSE... WHADDYA KNOW !

MIGHTY DECENT O'YOU, SHMINKIE... THANKS !!

AND AS THEY PULLED OUTTA SIGHT, A SHOUT WENT UP IN THE TRACK



THEY'RE OFF!



MEANWHILE: LET ME RETURN YOUR THOUGHTS TO MY PROBLEM... BY DINT OF MY POLITICAL INFLUENCE AND A \$500 BAIL BOND, I SECURED THE RELEASE OF THE TWO SYNDICATE MEN...

..AND NOW TO SHOW THE SYNDICATE I WAS ONNA LEVEL WITH 'EM... HA HA... EVERYTHING IS WORKIN' OUT FINE!



HYA FELLERS... TURN ON THAT RADIO AND GET THE RESULTS!



SEE? I TOLD YOU ASTERISK WAS NOTHIN' BUT A SURE-FOOTED DRAY HORSE!



WHY, IF I'DA LET YA BET ON HIM, Y'DA LOST YER SHOIT!!



AAAAAND IT'S ASTERISK

BY 40 LENGTHS!! WHAT A RACE, FOLKS...



SLAM OUCH CRASH

HEY YIP NO KRUNCH



I WAS A BROKEN MAN... MY HEALTH WAS GONE... MY CAREER RUINED BY HER!! ...FROM THAT MOMENT ON, I LIVED ONLY FOR ONE THING... REVENGE...

REVENGE!!

REVENGE



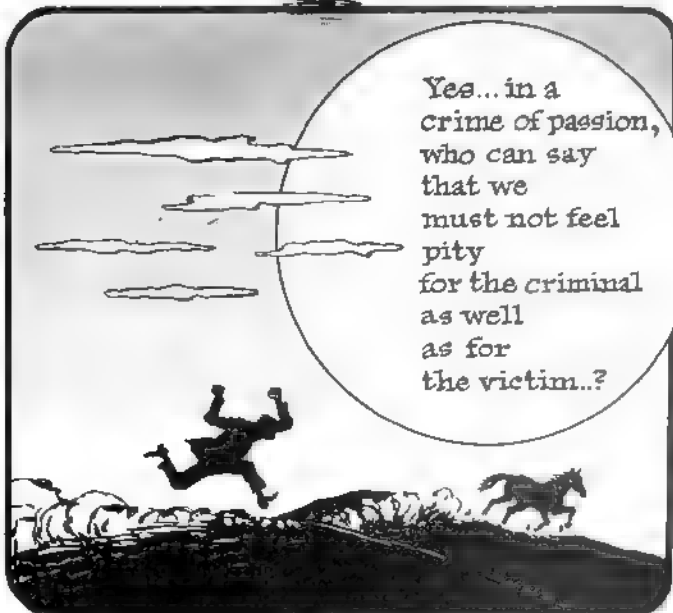
IF..IF ONLY SHE HAD SHOWN SOME SIGN THAT SHE COULD RUN ON A MUDDY TRACK...



WELL, WHY DIDN'T YOU ASK ME?



Yes... in a crime of passion, who can say that we must not feel pity for the criminal as well as for the victim...?





..STRANGE
HOW
AT A TIME
OF DANGER
THE MIND
TRAVELS
BACK...
AH, NOW
I REMEMBER...
IT WAS IN
THE OFFICE
OF
INSPECTOR
GILLOTINE...



THAT'S ALL
RIGHT...I OWED
YOU A FAVOR.

WHEN YOU WIRED ME
INSTEAD OF DOLAN, I
KNEW IT WAS A PERSONAL
MATTER, RATHER THAN
POLICE BUSINESS.

YES...
SOMEWHAT
PERSONAL..



...I WAS ASSIGNED BY THE
SURETÉ SOME TIME AGO TO
CAPTURE DON MACABRE, THE
INTERNATIONAL THIEF. TILL
NOW, I HAVE FAILED. UNLESS
I CAPTURE HIM WITHIN TWO
WEEKS, I WILL BE ASKED
TO RESIGN!



IT'S SURPRISING
TO ME THAT A
DETECTIVE OF
YOUR PROWESS
SHOULD BE FACED
WITH SUCH A
PROBLEM!

YES... BUT IT IS
UNCANNY!
THE MAN SEEMS
TO KNOW MY
EVERY MOVE!



OBSERVE ME.
FOLLOW ME
WHEREVER I GO..
PERHAPS YOU
WILL DISCOVER
A FLAW
IN MY
METHOD.

O.K..
I'LL BEGIN
AT ONCE.



I TAGGED ALONG WITH
GILLOTINE..THE INSPECTOR
WAS A VERY CAREFUL MAN..

WELL, SPIRIT...
THERE IS NOTHING
LEFT TO DO NOW
BUT TO HAVE A
LITTLE DIVERSION.
COME, I WILL
INTRODUCE YOU
TO MY FIANCÉE..



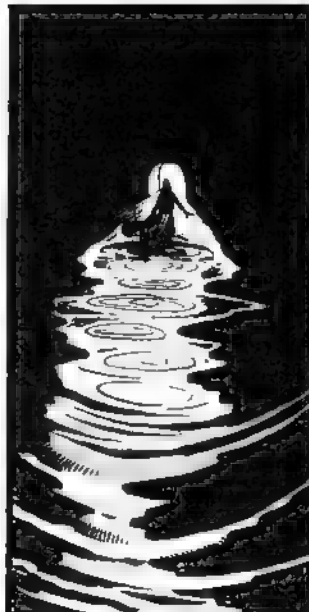
WE WENT INTO THE CAFE...

THIS IS PLASTER. WE ARE
GOING TO BE MARRIED
AS SOON AS I GET
MY PROMOTION.

HELLO..

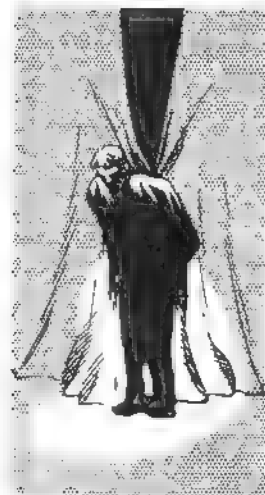












BLACKMAIL

WINTER CAME LATE THIS YEAR, AND EVEN THOUGH IT'S FEBRUARY, A FLUFFY "DECEMBER SNOW" STILL BLANKETS ABANDONED WILDWOOD CEMETERY. FROM HERE, IN QUARTERS BUILT UNDER A HEADSTONE MARKED "DENNY COLT", THE SPIRIT OPERATES.



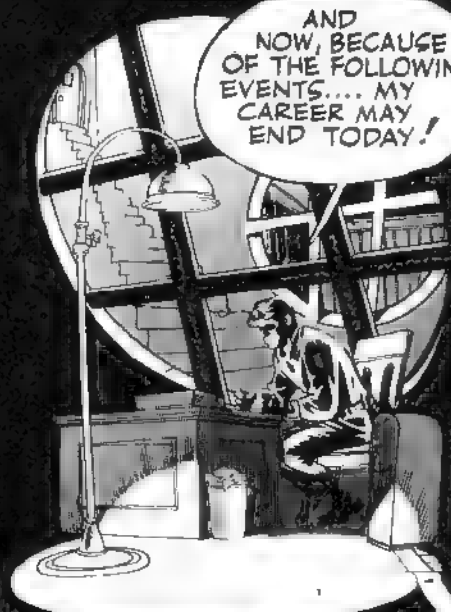
TO THE CENTRAL CITY PRESS
AND TO WHOMEVER ELSE
THIS MAY CONCERN:

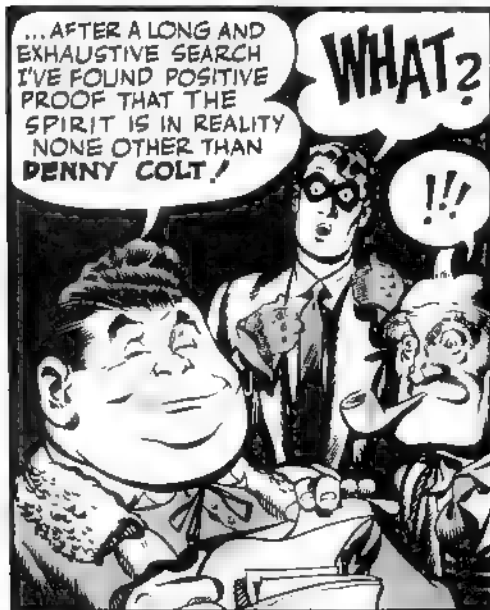
I, DENNY COLT, WHO FOR ALMOST EIGHT YEARS HAVE DEVOTED MY LIFE TO FIGHTING CRIME OUTSIDE THE LAW, DO HEREBY DECLARE TO THE WORLD MY SECRET. IN 1940 I WAS, TO ALL APPEARANCES, KILLED--AND BURIED IN WILDWOOD CEMETERY. IN THE PUBLIC RECORDS, DENNY COLT WAS DEAD. BUT 24 HOURS LATER I REGAINED CONSCIOUSNESS, AND REALIZED THAT I HAD BEEN A VICTIM OF A PECULIAR AND UNDETECTABLE FORM OF SUSPENDED ANIMATION...

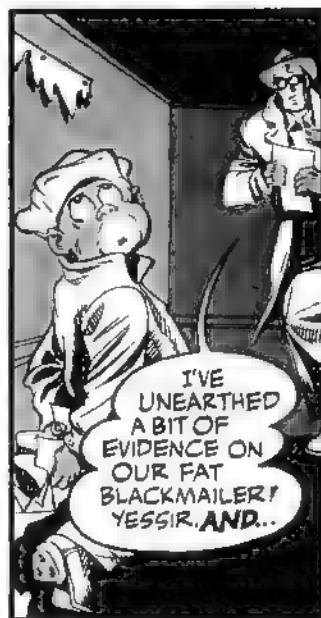
AWED AND HUMBLED BY THE KNOWLEDGE THAT I WAS LIVING ON BORROWED TIME, I DETERMINED TO DEVOTE THIS TIME TO THE PUBLIC INTEREST. I WAS TRAINED IN CRIMINOLOGY, AND LEGALLY DEAD. I COULD FOLLOW CRIMINALS BEYOND THE REACH OF THE LAW. I TOLD ONLY MY FRIEND, COMMISSIONER POLAN... AND, MY IDENTITY CONCEALED BY A MASK, TOOK UP MY CAREER AS

THE SPIRIT.

AND
NOW, BECAUSE
OF THE FOLLOWING
EVENTS... MY
CAREER MAY
END TODAY!







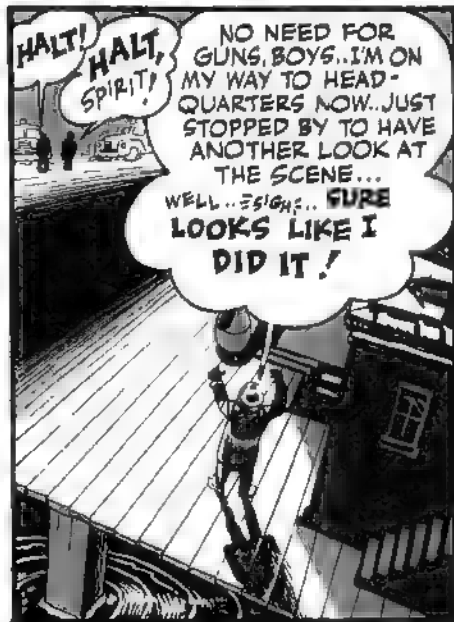
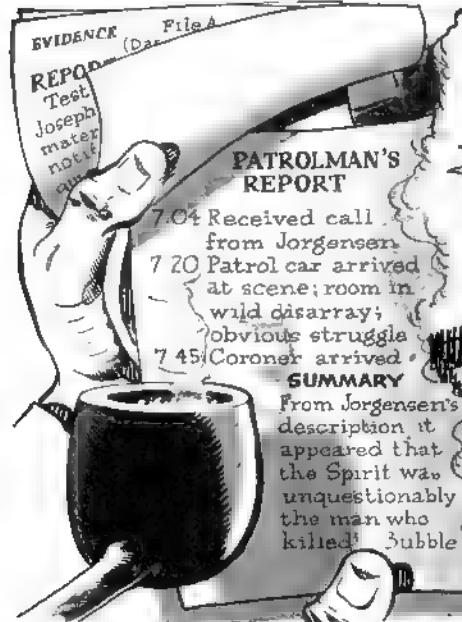
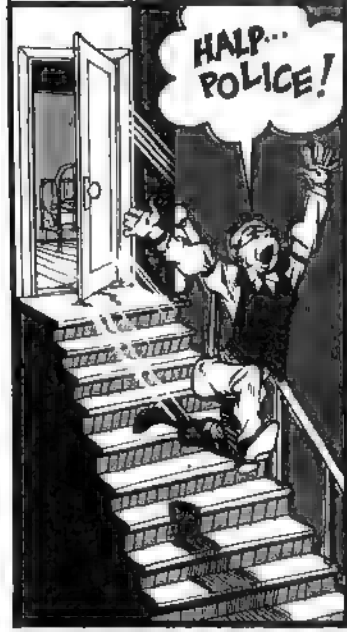
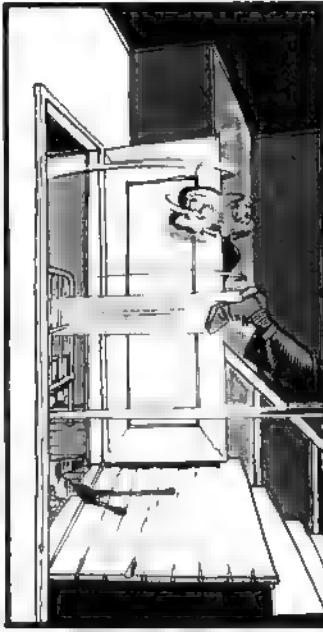
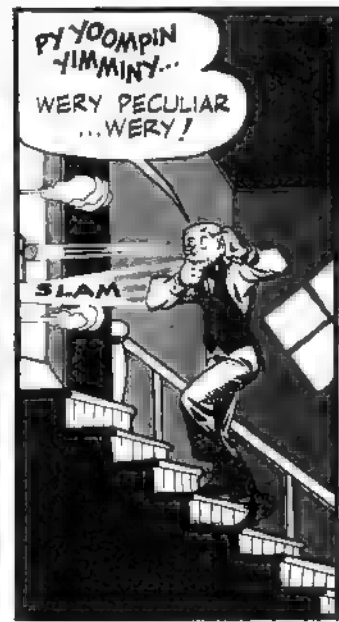
AT THAT MOMENT A BLINDING PAIN EXPLODED AT THE BACK OF MY HEAD...

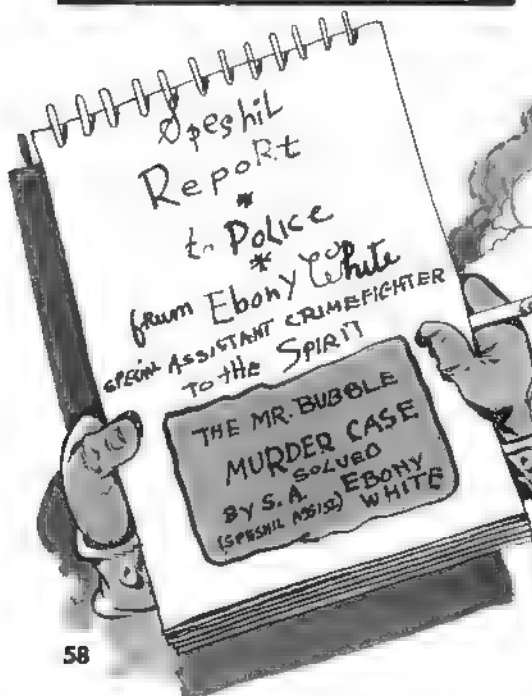
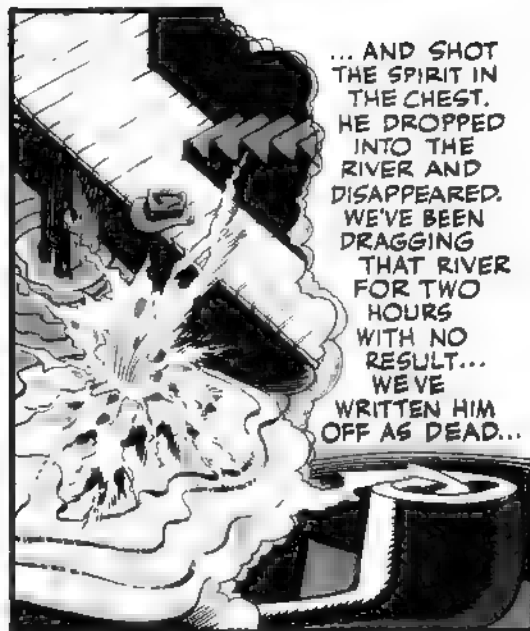


...WELL, THERE ARE THE FACTS AS I KNOW THEM... I HAVE RECORDED THIS STATEMENT OF MY OWN FREE WILL AND IN THIS STATE OF MIND INTEND TO GIVE MYSELF UP TO THE POLICE, REVEAL MY TRUE IDENTITY, AND LET DUE PROCESS OF LAW DECIDE THE SPIRIT'S FATE...

YAS PY YIMINY I BE SHOOT THE SPIRIT DONE IT!

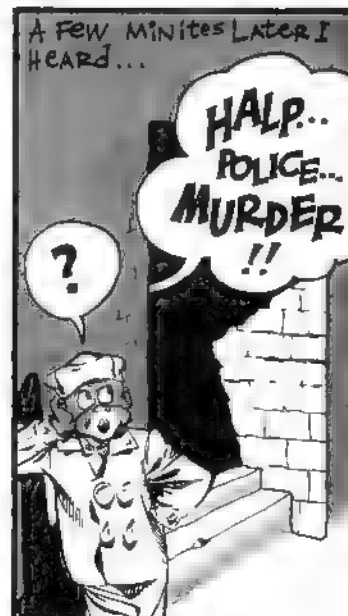






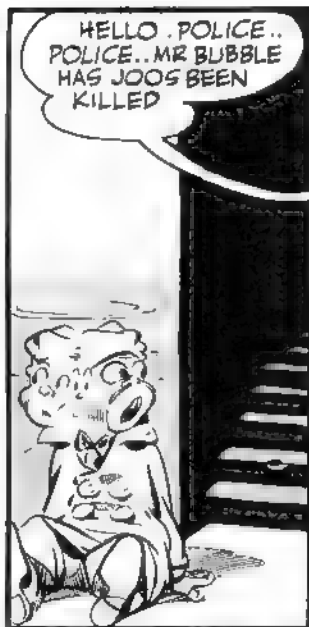
THE ~~FOLE~~
HERE ARE THE
FAXS ~~CONS~~
ABOUT HOW
I SINGLE-
HANDED
SOLVED THE
MURDER OF
MR.
BUBBLE

YOU WAIT HERE,
EBONY.. I'M GOING
IN THE BACK WAY...
I WANT TO BE
CERTAIN TO
SURPRISE THE
SCOUNDREL..





THEN THE NEXT
THING I KNEW...



HELLO..POLICE..
POLICE..MR BUBBLE
HAS JOOS BEEN
KILLED



BEIN' A NACHEREL
DETEKTIF, I KNEW ZAKLY
WHAT TO DO. I PURSUE
I FOLLERD.

HEY..
WAIT!



WILL..!!
SCREEEE



O.K..MISTER
KILLER...I GOTCHA
TRAPPED..Y'CAN'T FOOL
ME BY HIDIN' IN THERE..
AH KNOWS THAT'S A
CLOSET..

SO..IT'S A
LITTLE SQUIRT
THAT'S BEEN CHASIN'
ME... O.K..JUNIOR..
LET'S GET THIS THING
TIED UP..

He kep me tied up ALL Nite
AN the NEXT MORNING AH
HEARD the SPIRIT TALKIN
to SOME COPS RIGHT
outside the WINDOW...

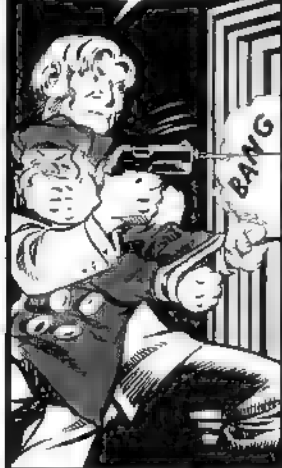
HAW! WHAT A BREAK.
THE SPIRIT'S GOT HIS
BACK TURNED TO
DIS WINDOW!

THE bullet MISSED the
SPIRIT AND KNOCKED
OFF A COP'S HAT..
The POLICE, thinkin' that
the SPIRIT FIRED the
SHOT - LET HIM HAVVIT!
The po' SPIRIT dropped
into the RIVER...
shot BAD...

THE KILLER WAITED
UNTIL the COPS WENT
AWAY.. THEN, JEST AS
HE WUZ GONNA MAKE
A RUN FOR IT..



NO NEED FOR
GUNS, BOYS..I'M
ON MY WAY TO
HEADQUARTERS
NOW...



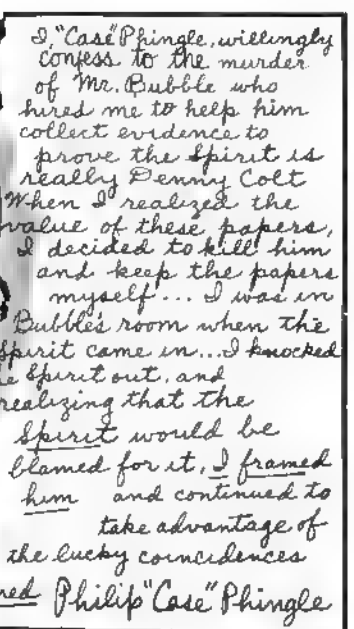
BANG



BANG BANG



YOU!!
I THOUGHT
THEY
CROAKED
YA..



FAMOUS MONSTERS 1975 CONVENTION POSTER

ATTENTION: COLLECTORS! A 27"x20" POSTER! FULL COLOR! FIVE MONSTERS!

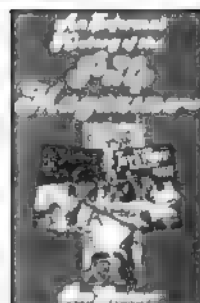


Mummy, Frankenstein, Wolfman, Dracula, Reptile. Together for the first time in giant size! In full color! On the 1975 Famous Monsters Convention poster. This 27"x20" poster will lure hundreds of monster fans to New York in 1975. It announces the monster-off event of the year. November 7th, 8th and 9th of 1975 will bring you a Hammer Film Festival. Costume parades, Displays, Exhibits. And this is the poster that will start them with its vibrant color. Excellent detail. Exciting information. You can own a copy of the original poster, the same poster that will be used to advertise the FM Convention throughout the country. The same slick stock. The same vibrant color. The fabulous rendering by TM's Tom Kelly. This is a collector's classic you can't afford to miss out on. Order now, while the supply is available. #2972 \$1.50

REFERENCE PAPERBACKS



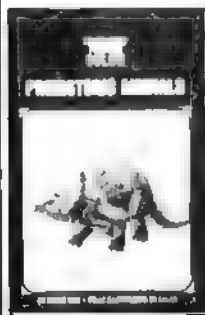
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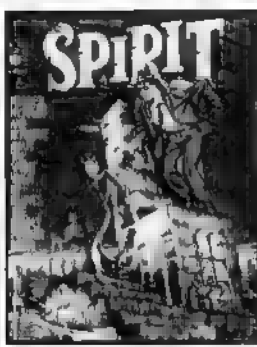
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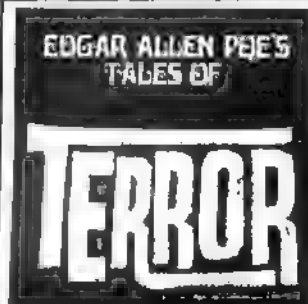


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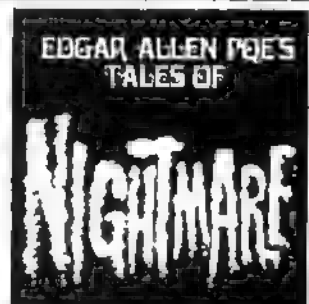
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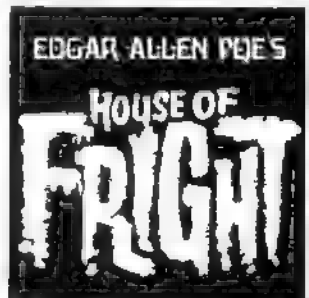
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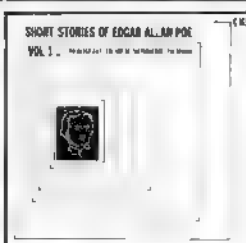
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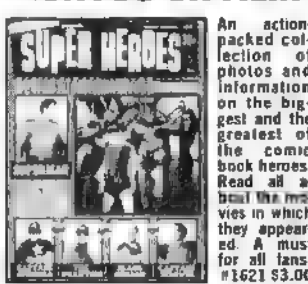


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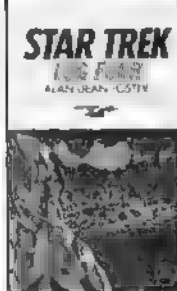
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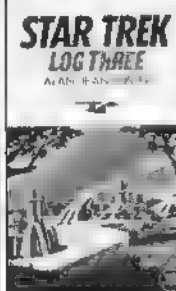
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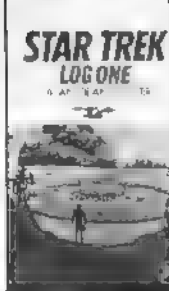
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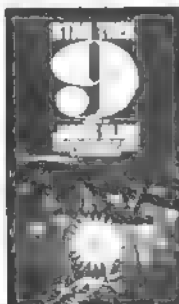
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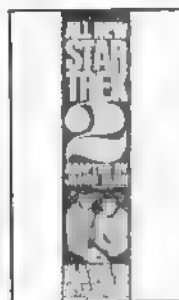
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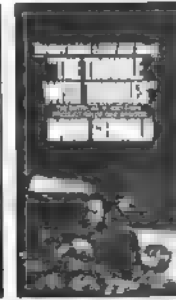
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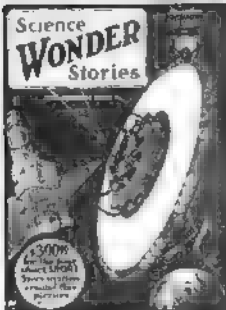


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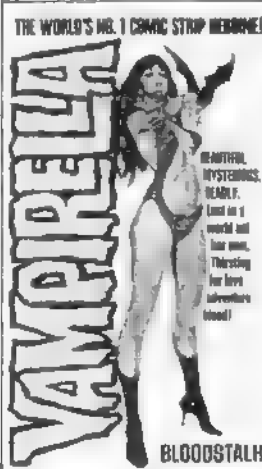
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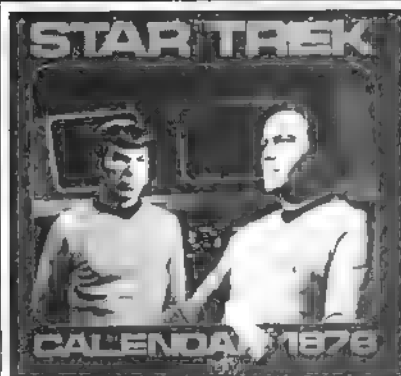
Vampirella! A woman from the stars. Beautiful. Shapely. Deadly. Refugee from the dead planet Drakulon where the rivers flowing with human blood dried... and died. A survivor. Flung to Earth in a returning Explorer rocket. And onto a planet where, to survive, she must take the lives of fellow creatures. And she chose to become a vampire... feast on human blood. To live Her story is one of danger excitement. Drama. This is the beginning of her story told in an action packed novelization 144 pages of suspense Presented as only a veteran SF writer can A whole new world in a small 7 x4" paperback package Colossal



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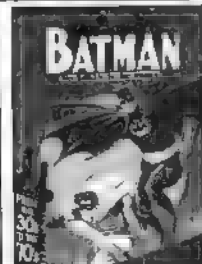
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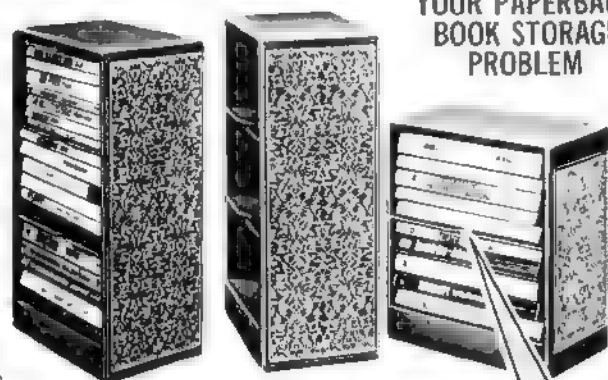
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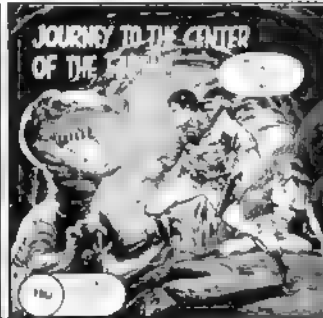
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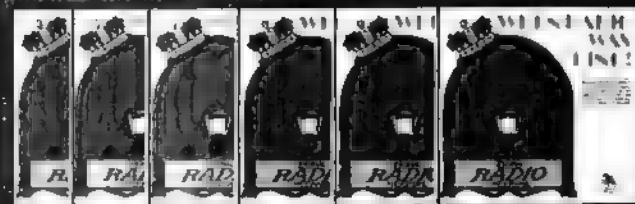


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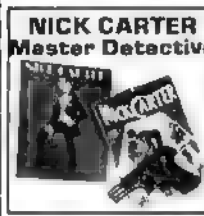
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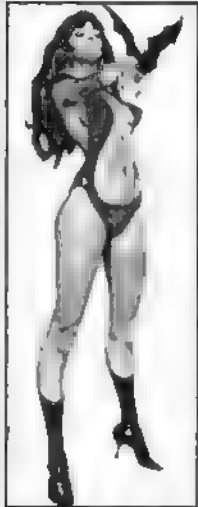
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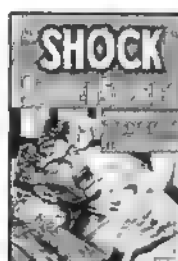


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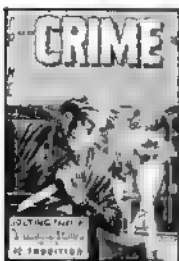
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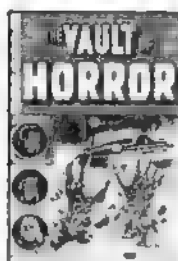


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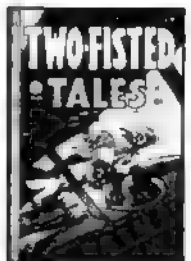


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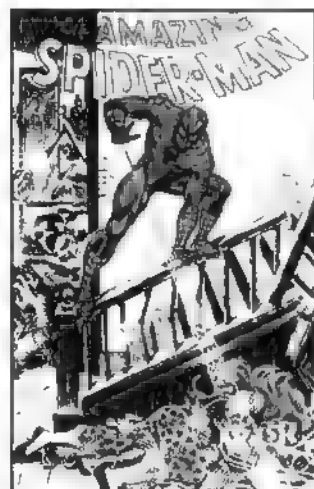
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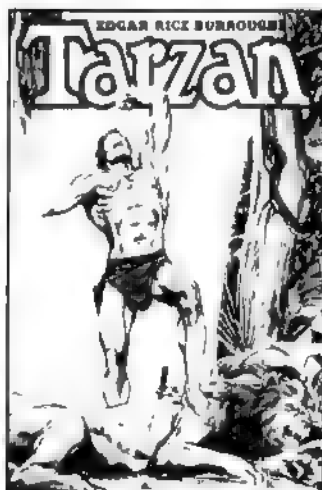
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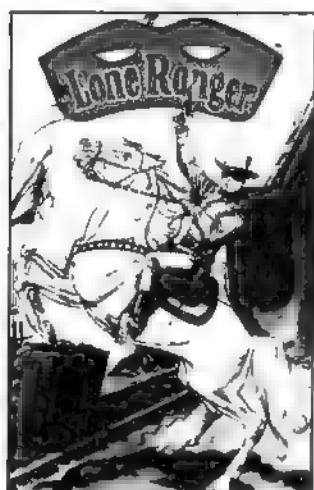
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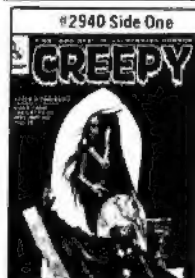


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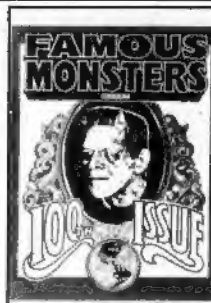
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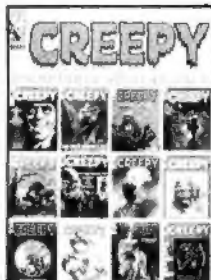
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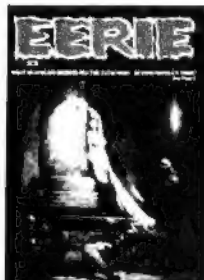
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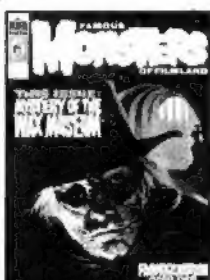
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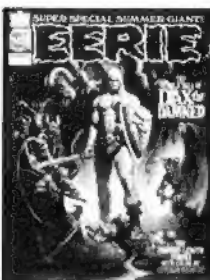
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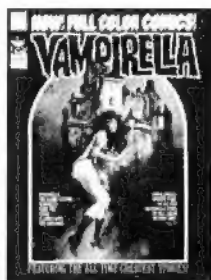
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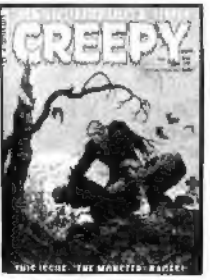
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